

No. 1261.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1851.

PRICE
FOURPENCE
Stamped Edition, 5d.

For the convenience of Subscribers residing in remote places, the weekly numbers are reissued in Monthly Parts, stitched in a wrapper, and forwarded with the Magazines.—Subscriptions for the Stamped Edition for the Continent, for not less than Three Months, and in advance, are received by M. BAUDRY, 3, Quai Malaquais, Paris, or at the Publishing Office, 14, Wellington-street North, Strand, London. For France and other Countries not requiring the postage to be paid in London, 25fr. or 12. 2s. the year. To other Countries, the postage in addition.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—Gentlemen intending to Matriculate at the University of London are informed that a Class will shortly assemble for the purpose of examining the whole of the Subjects embraced in the Matriculation Examination. The Departments of MATHEMATICS and NATURAL PHILOSOPHY will be undertaken by WILLIAM WATSON, A.B., London, Tutor of Mathematics at University Hall, and Assistant Master in University College School; and those of CLASSICAL HISTORY and the ENGLISH LANGUAGE, by ERNEST ARNOLD, Assistant Master in University College School. The Class will meet daily. Fee for the Course, Ten Guinea. For further particulars apply to Mr. Watson, University Hall, Gordon-square.

NEW COLLEGE, LONDON.—LAY STUDENT DEPARTMENT. NOTICE.—HITHERTO GIVEN IN THE CLASSES (in both Faculties) will RE-OPEN on MONDAY, January 3, 1852. In the Classes of the Faculty of Arts a suitable arrangement is made to enable a Student to enter without disadvantage at the close of the Christmas recess. The Seasonal Prospectus for 1851-52, together with the Regulations of the Lay Student Department, may be had on application to the Rev. W. FARRER, L.L.B., Secretary, at the College; or of Messrs. Jackson & Walford, St. Paul's Churchyard. The Introductory Lectures delivered by the Professors at the opening of the College have been published by Messrs. Jackson & Walford, and may be obtained from them, or through any respectable Bookseller.

JOHN HARRIS, D.D., Principal.

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—NOTICE TO MEMBERS AND CONTRIBUTORS OF BRITISH SPECIMENS.—We desire to draw the attention of the LAYING DAY for receiving Specimens to enable Members to participate in the distribution of the Duplicates in February, 1852. G. E. DENNES, Secretary, 10, Bedford-street, Strand, Dec. 18, 1851.

ARUNDEL SOCIETY.—ELGIN MARBLES.—CASTS FROM MR. CHEVRETON'S REDUCTION OF THE THESEUS (to which a Prize Medal was awarded at the Exhibition) are on application to Mr. Mackay, at Messrs. J. & D. Colnaghi, 13 and 14, Pall-mall East. Prize 25s. (or to Members of the Arundel Society, 12s. 6d.)

By order of the Council, G. AUBREY BEZZI, Hon. Sec.

MUSEUM OF PRACTICAL GEOLOGY, LONDON.

GOVERNMENT SCHOOL OF MINES AND OF SCIENCE APPLIED TO THE ARTS.

The following LECTURES commence with Introductory Discourses in JANUARY, 1852:—

1. GEOLOGY and its APPLICATIONS, by A. C. RAMSAY, F.R.S.

2. MINING and MINERALOGY, by WARRINGTON W. SMYTH, M.A.

3. METALLURGY, by JOHN PERCY, M.D., F.R.S.

The Courses on CHEMISTRY, by LYON PLAYFAIR, F.R.S., NATURAL HISTORY and its APPLICATIONS, by EDWARD FORBES, F.R.S., MECHANICAL SCIENCE, by ROBERT HUNT, Keeper of Mining Records, are in progress.—Officers of the Army and Navy, either in the Queen's or East India Company's service, as also Members of the Admiralty, may obtain certificates from a Magistrate of the county in which the mines may be worked, that they are attached to such mines; and are admitted to the lectures at half the usual charges.

For further information, apply to Mr. TREHARN REEKS, at the Museum.

H. T. DE LA BECHE, Director.

ROYAL MANCHESTER INSTITUTION.

RE-EXHIBITION OF MODERN PICTURES AND WORKS OF ART.—THE EXHIBITION OF 1852 WILL BE OPENED as usual on the 1st of January, 1853, and will be continued until the 31st of August. Pictures, &c. from London will be forwarded by Mr. JOSEPH GREEN, 14, Charles-street, Middlesex Hospital; and from Edinburgh and the Neighbourhood by Mr. A. M. HILL, 67, Fife-street, Edinburgh. If delivered to them respectively before the 31st of July. Pictures, &c. from the Royal Academy must be delivered to Mr. GREEN immediately on the closing of that Exhibition; and from other places Artists are requested to send them by the most convenient and least expensive conveyance. The Council particularly request that no Artist will send more than four paintings, it being resolved that not more than that number by any one Artist shall be hung.

No carriage expenses will be paid except for the works of those Artists to whom a regular Exhibition Circular has been sent.

The following are the Prizes offered on the last year's exhibition:—

ONE HUNDRED GUINEAS to the Artist of the best Oil Painting.

And THE HEYWOOD GOLD MEDAL to the Artist of the best Water-Colour Drawing.

These Prizes are open to all competitors. Any work having been in a Public Exhibition previous to the year 1853 will be disqualified from competing for either of these Prizes.

The Council reserve the power of withholding a Prize should no work be contributed which they think of sufficient excellence to merit it.

JOHN E. GREGAN, Hon. Sec.

COURSE OF INSTRUCTION in the ENGLISH LANGUAGE and LITERATURE for YOUNG LADIES.—The Fourth Year of Mr. HOLLIDAY'S ANNUAL COURSE OF INSTRUCTION in the ENGLISH LANGUAGE and LITERATURE will COMENCE on TUESDAY, January 1, 1852, at Mr. Roche's Lecture Rooms, 1, North Audley-street, Grosvenor-square. For Prospectuses apply as above, or at Mr. Holliday's residence, 5, Hampstead-street, Finsbury-square.

HODDSDON SCIENTIFIC SCHOOL, COMMERCIAL EDUCATION with the NATURAL and APPLIED SCIENCES.—This School is established on the latest and most efficient, and will be found complete in every department. The first is to provide a course of instruction based upon Christian principles, practical in its character, less costly and adapted to the requirements of the present age. The Prospectus may be had on application to the Head Master, Scientific School, Hoddson, Brixton.

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ST. MARY'S HALL.—JUVENILE BRANCH.—This Branch of the Institution, conducted by Miss Northcroft on the much approved system of Wilderspin, will RE-OPEN on the 10th of January. Full particulars may be obtained at the Institution.

FRENCH and GERMAN PROTESTANT COLLEGE, CHURCH HOUSE, MERTON, SURREY.—This Establishment, conducted by a French Gentleman, formerly Principal of a large School in Paris, and Author of a French and English Dictionary, and other Educational Works, combines all the advantages of a superior Classical and Commercial English Education, with an excellent system of Continental instruction. Daily Lessons are given by French and German resident Professors; and the faculty being French, that Language is generally spoken, and the Pupils are waited upon by French servants. The Mansion, which is beautifully situated in the midst of extensive grounds, has lately been considerably enlarged, and will be pronounced, on inspection, to be admirably adapted for Educational purposes, for which it has been specially planned. The air of Merton is peculiarly salubrious, as can be proved by reference to Clergymen and Gentlemen whose sons have been brought up in the Establishment. Diet of the best quality, great part being the produce of the estate. Pupils are successfully prepared for the Military and Naval Examinations, and thoroughly instructed in Mathematics, Fortification, Engineering, and Military Drawing and Drilling. There is also a separate Preparatory Department taught by a Parisian Lady. Terms moderate, and, if preferred, inclusive. Several trains daily from Waterloo Station, and Omnibuses from Epsom-church-street. For Prospectuses and References apply to the Principal.

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The Committee have a firm conviction that this important public Institution is in every respect equal, and in most superior, to any similar establishment in the country, and they therefore deem it desirable to call the attention of the public to it.

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The religious superintendence of the School is confided to a Chaplain, and the greatest pains are taken to instil into the minds of the Boys right religious principles, and high and noble aspirations.

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Detailed information respecting the School—its objects and regulations—will be readily furnished by any member of the Committee.

Such information may also be obtained from the Chaplain, Head Master, or Secretary, to whom application for the admission of pupils should be made.

The Committee have appointed Monday, the 28th of January, for the commencement of the first session of 1852.

On the 28th of December, and the 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd of January, between the hours of One and Three, the Chaplain or Head Master will be in attendance at the Committee Room, Old Jewry Chambers, London.

December, 1851.

BERNARD HOUSE, the POLYGON, SOUTHAMPTON. offers not only great facilities for obtaining a sound ENGLISH EDUCATION, with every accomplishment necessary for the domestic and polished gentleman, but a fine opportunity of acquiring several languages. For the daughters of parents going abroad,—the delicate in health,—the neglected in education, as well as for those who through recent events have left France, this Establishment would be highly valuable. The salubrity of its situation, its extensive premises, and unusually liberal domestic arrangements, with first-rate advantages in education, matured by long and successful experience, under the ever watchful eye of an anxious mother, render it well worthy the attention of those who have young ladies to place out.

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QUARTERLY REVIEW, No. CLXXIX.—NOTICE.—ADVERTISEMENTS and BILLS for the above Periodical will be in time if forwarded to the Publisher by the 29th inst.

John Murray, Albemarle-street.

FIRST-CLASS ADVERTISEMENTS in MR. DOD'S PEEAGE, &c. for 1852.—The last day for receiving ADVERTISEMENTS is WEDNESDAY, the 31st inst. Immediate applications should be made to the Agent, G. MURKILL, Red Lion-court, Fleet-street. The nature of the work makes its advertising pages peculiarly useful to those who seek to address the wealthy and upper classes. Its vast circulation ensures a large and beneficial publicity.

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For full particulars of the booking of rough system between England and Ireland, see Bradshaw's Guide, page 123; Walsh's Irish Guide, page 30; Fisher's Irish Guide, page 2.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1851.

REVIEWS

Lord George Bentinck: a Political Biography.
By B. Disraeli, M.P. Colburn & Co.

DURING the latter days of the Melbourne ministry, about the hour of midnight, there might have been observed a member of Parliament taking his seat on the back benches of the Opposition. His white macintosh just hid his scarlet hunting coat,—which along with his splashed boots told of a sporting senator. Never until the year 1846 did this member take any active part in debate. If he had been told at that time that in less than six years his biography would fill nearly six hundred pages, written by the pen of a leader of Her Majesty's Opposition, we can fancy the twinkling humour of his eyes and the ringing laugh from his lips. Yet, so it is. While Windham, Tierney, Whitbread, Earl Grey, the Earl of Durham, and many other considerable persons have been left to the pen of the general historian, here we have the life of Lord George Bentinck. To the strong personal friendship of a literary friend his Lordship is indebted for the posthumous honour of biography.

Mr. Disraeli and dryness have never been so strongly associated as in this volume;—about one-fifth of which only is interesting to general readers. It is impossible for any amount of literary power to give life and spirit to past parliamentary debates, especially while the speakers still alive cannot be treated with historical freedom. Interest in narrative can arise only from dramatic contrast and a succession of incidents varying in character. There are wanting in parliamentary life. Artists avoid painting senates and judicial scenes because it is difficult to group the figures. The same thing occurs in the historian's attempt to give heroic interest to parliamentary history. Who could analyze speeches with vivacity, give a vivid epitome of Sheridan, or concentrate the flashes of Canning in a page? One or two debates by treating them in a pictorial style might be made graphic,—but the Froissart or Thierry of a session would be found tiresome. Political life, except in seasons of national revolution, takes forms neither dramatic nor picturesque. The autobiography or correspondence of eminent statesmen may become interesting and valuable from their revelations,—but as a general rule mere political biographies are tiresome.

Mr. Disraeli knows all this as well as we do; and he has struggled hard to impart graphic interest to his "political biography,"—but has failed from the intractability of his subject. The Sugar Committee—the Irish Railway scheme—the Protectionist struggle—though important at the time, are wearisome to write about. In composing his work he has sacrificed much to the dignity of his hero. Wishing to impart to Lord George Bentinck the conventional respectability of a parliamentary leader, he has "suppressed the humanities" of his subject, after the fashion followed by biographers of Divines. Thus, he gives only a glance at Lord George's connexion with the turf. By so doing he loses the opportunity of recording some of the most characteristic passages in his hero's life.

Lord George Bentinck was a man of no common spirit when his passions and principles were in harmony. In general views of politics he was decidedly moderate and opposed to ultra principles;—in fact, he was a Whig of 1668. He was favourable to the Endowment of the Roman Catholic Clergy in Ireland, and to Jewish Emancipation. He seems to have inherited his views rather than to have adopted them. He had untiring energy, a zeal that shrank from no

amount of drudgery,—and that he killed himself by his toils is made evident in this volume. It is impossible to read without some admiration of his self-devotion to the cause which he embraced. No one took a more modest view of his powers than himself. Leadership was thrust upon him, and what he deemed public duty alone impelled him to accept the perilous position. His chief disadvantages arose from his want of voice, and from his tendency to sleep after he had taken food. During his mortal struggle against Free Trade, he breakfasted at Harcourt House early in the morning,—received deputations and visitors till twelve,—sat in Committees until the Speaker took the chair,—and did not dine until long past midnight. Work of this kind would have killed Hercules.—It seems clear to us, however, though Mr. Disraeli is sparing of details, that the life of long excitement previously led by Lord George must have strained his powers and induced a tendency to apoplexy or to heart-disease. He knew that his political exertions were sealing his fate. More than once he was heard to say—"In this cause I have shaken my constitution and shortened my days, and I will succeed or die." He never could conquer his want of facility as a speaker; but he lived to hear Sir Robert Peel eulogize "the assiduity, the zeal, and the knowledge" displayed by him in the Sugar Committee.

Mr. Disraeli thus describes his hero.—

"Although he took no part in debate, and attended the house rather as a club than a senate, he possessed a great and peculiar influence in it. He was viewed with interest and often with extraordinary regard by every sporting man in the House. With almost all of these he was acquainted; some of them, on either side, were his intimate companions and confederates. His eager and energetic disposition; his quick perception, clear judgment, and prompt decision; the tenacity with which he clung to his opinions; his frankness and love of truth; his daring and speculative spirit; his lofty bearing, blended as it was with a simplicity of manner very remarkable; the ardour of his friendships, even the fierceness of his hates and prejudices; all combined to form one of those strong characters who whatever may be their pursuit must always direct and lead. Nature had clothed this vehement spirit with a material form which was in perfect harmony with its noble and commanding character. He was tall, and remarkable for his presence; his countenance almost a model of manly beauty; his face oval, the complexion clear and mantling; the forehead lofty and white; the nose aquiline and delicately moulded; the upper lip short. But it was in the dark-brown eye that flashed with piercing scrutiny that all the character of the man came forth: a brilliant glance, not soft, but ardent, acute, imperious, incapable of deception or of being deceived."

The biographer gives a long description of Lord George's labours after he had cast himself into Parliamentary life,—and adduces the testimony of adversaries as to the extent of his toils. Ever and anon Lord George, fighting a desperate battle against great odds, would cast a look back upon the turf. Let us quote a graphic passage.—

"A few days before, it was the day after the Derby, May 25th, the writer met Lord George Bentinck in the House of Commons. He was standing before the book-shelves, with a volume in his hand, and his countenance was greatly disturbed. His resolutions in favour of the Colonial interest after all his labours had been negated by the Committee on the 22nd, and on the 24th his horse Surplice, whom he had parted with amongst the rest of his stud solely that he might pursue without distraction his labours on behalf of the great interests of the country, had won that paramount and Olympian stake to gain which had been the great object of his life. He had nothing to console him, and nothing to sustain him except his pride. Even that deserted him before a heart which he knew at least could yield him sympathy. He

gave a sort of superb groan: 'All my life I have been trying for this, and for what have I sacrificed it!' he murmured.—It was in vain to offer solace.—'You do not know what the Derby is,' he moaned out.—'Yes, I do; it is the blue ribbon of the turf.'—'It is the blue ribbon of the turf,' he slowly repeated to himself, and sitting down to a table, he buried himself in a folio of statistics. But on Monday, the 29th, when the resolution in favour of a 10s. differential duty for the Colonies had at the last moment been carried, and carried by his casting vote, 'the blue ribbons of the turf' were all forgotten. Not for all the honours and successes of all the meetings, spring or autumn, Newmarket, Epsom, Goodwood, Doncaster, would he have exchanged that hour of rapture. His eye sparkled with fire, his nostril dilated with triumph, his brow was elate like a conqueror, his sanguine spirit saw a future of continued and illimitable success. 'We have saved the Colonies,' he said, 'saved the Colonies. I knew it must be so. It is the knell of Free Trade.'"

That Lord George by his constancy and determination was well qualified for party politics there can be no doubt. But we avoid all political dissertations,—and turn to a view on the history of Corn Law Repeal put forth by Mr. Disraeli. Before noticing it, we must remark that Mr. Disraeli is courteous and complimentary to nearly all his antagonists. There is one exception to this amenity:—he tries as much as he can to damage the memory of Sir Robert Peel. He endeavours to enlist both Whig and Protectionist prejudices against the great statesman, whom he charges with having "unfairly" opposed Lord Melbourne's Ministry.—It is thus that he skillfully introduces the present Premier,—whom he calls "the somewhat rash, but still unrivalled leader of the Whigs."

"The position of Lord John Russell during the last administration of Sir Robert Peel was a mortifying one. Every public man is prepared to endure defeat with the same equanimity with which he should bear more auspicious fortunes; but no one likes to be vanquished unfairly. It was the opinion of Lord John Russell that he had not been fairly treated by the triumphant opposition which had ousted him from the treasury bench. He was indeed too reserved and too justly proud a man to give any vent to these feelings in the heyday of conservative exultation. But the feelings were not less lively; he brooded over them with the pain which accompanies the sense of injustice. Session after session, while his policy was appropriated in detail by those who had often condemned or misrepresented it, the frigid manner often veiled an indignant spirit and the cynic smile was sometimes the signal of a contempt which he was too haughty to express. But when the hour of judgment had arrived, and when he might speak of his feelings with becoming dignity, in giving the reason why at the beginning of 1846, when summoned by his sovereign, he had at first respectfully declined the commission of her majesty to form a government on account of his weakness in the house of commons, he added: 'I need not now explain why it was, that, in the house of commons those who in general agree with me in opinion, are inferior in number to those who generally follow the right honourable baronet (Sir Robert Peel); but I must say, on this occasion, that during the whole of our administration, our motives never received a fair construction, nor did our measures ever receive an impartial consideration from those who were our political opponents.' This is a grave charge, applying as it does to a very eventful period of nearly seven years, for such was the considerable duration of the Melbourne government. Was the charge well-founded? In reluctantly admitting its authenticity, there are however in justice to the conservative ministry, and equally in justice to the conservative party, several important considerations to be indicated."

After assigning the course of Whig politics ending in the Lichfield House compact as the cause of the bitter opposition to the Whigs, Mr. Disraeli has the following characteristic passage.—

"The whigs could hardly have treated Mr. Burke worse, and probably, in some degree, from the same cause. Lord John Russell was a man of letters, and it is a common opinion that a man cannot at the same time be successful both in meditation and in action. But in life it is wisest to judge men individually, and not decide upon them by general rules. The common opinion in this instance may be very often correct; but where it fails to apply its influence may involve us in fatal mistakes. A literary man who is a man of action is a two-edged weapon; nor should it be forgotten that Caius Julius and Frederick the Great were both eminently literary characters, and yet were perhaps the two most distinguished men of action of ancient and modern times."

—Literary politicians are sometimes found inconvenient allies, and "two-edged weapons" cutting in opposite directions. Mr. Disraeli forgets that in making the charge against Sir Robert Peel of "unfair" treatment of Lord John Russell, he assails by the same blow his own present ally, the Earl of Derby!

The writer then carries on his narrative to the end of 1845; and thus describes the circumstances under which Lord John Russell wrote the famous epistle that will be known in history as his "Edinburgh Letter."

"In or out of power, therefore, the position of Lord John Russell since the reform act has been more splendid than satisfactory; and when the whig party, as was inevitable from their antecedents, but apparently to his mortification, in consequence of his guidance, was again overthrown, and had lost all credit and confidence with the country, it was to be expected that a man of his thoughtful ambition would seek when the occasion offered to rebuild his power and renew the lustre of his reputation with no superstitious deference to that party of which he was the victim as much as the idol, and with no very punctilious consideration for the feelings of that conservative government which had certainly extended to him an opposition neither distinguished by its generosity nor its candour. Such was the man; and such his fortunes, such perhaps his feelings; who was watching in a distant city in the autumn of '45 "four cabinet councils held in a week." To one so experienced in political life, and especially to one so intimately acquainted with the personal character of the chief actors, it was not difficult to form some conclusion as to the nature of these momentous deliberations. When the cabinet dispersed and parliament was again prorogued, it was evident, to use a subsequent expression of Lord John Russell, that the policy decided on was a policy of inaction. It is in the season of perplexity, of hesitation, of timidity, of doubt, that leading minds advance to decide and to direct. Now was the moment to strike. And without consulting his party, which for the first time he really led, and with no false delicacy for a conservative cabinet in convulsions, he expressed his opinions on public affairs in that celebrated Edinburgh epistle, which was addressed, on the 28th of November, to his constituents, the citizens of London."

At this point of the narrative we supposed that Mr. Disraeli was marking the famous letter for the purpose of damaging the fame of Sir R. Peel by showing that Lord John was his leader. But he had a deeper design,—the intention of giving an entirely new version of the history of the repeal of the Corn Laws. It is contended subsequently, at great length and with much ingenuity, by Mr. Disraeli, that the Whig leaders deeply regretted the Edinburgh letter because it prevented the settlement of the Corn Question upon a moderate fixed duty. He cites the printed speech of Lord Palmerston saying that a low fixed duty would have been a preferable settlement,—mentions the efforts of a deceased Whig peer, in 1846, to bring about a union between Lord G. Bentinck and Lord John Russell,—and argues that but for the Edinburgh letter the moderate duty would have been certainly passed, and Peel thrown out by the junction of the Whigs, the landed interest, and the Irish

members. It is possible that there may be something of Sidonia's conjuring skill in all this;—but the narrative is so deliberately shaped to that conclusion, that we cannot refuse to believe that Mr. Disraeli really thinks that such might have been the case. It is the most important part of his work,—and will challenge political strictures from various sides. With these we will avoid meddling,—satisfied with indicating the curious view taken. To that view Mr. Disraeli's present position, and his knowledge of the past, give importance. It is also worthy of note, that Mr. Disraeli says, with great candour as some will think, or recklessness according to others,—"Well would it have been for the honour of both parties (Whig and Tory) if the impending and inevitable change had not then (1839) been postponed." The word "inevitable" is a strange one to have escaped from Mr. Disraeli's pen. We have marked it as not a little suggestive. The whole remark goes to impugn the political talents of the statesmen of that day; and Mr. Disraeli's entire statement might be printed with a sentence of Mr. Cobden's for its motto,—"It was a regular race between the rival statesmen to know who should settle the Corn Law Question."

As our readers are aware, the personal predominates in all Mr. Disraeli's views. In the history of the Corn Law Repeal he can never turn his eyes from the awful shade of Sir R. Peel, and it is evident from this book that as long as Mr. Disraeli lives there will never be wanting one to detract from that statesman's fame. He tasks to the utmost his powers of disparaging criticism in attempting to paint the character of Peel. He wastes twenty pages of his book in a complete literary failure. He dares not to use the tomahawk against the memory of the dead; but he avoids all the great points of the character, and gives a catalogue of qualities, not a picture. He tries to damn Sir Robert with faint praise,—and reminds us of the detracting spirit in which Lord Dudley wrote an essay in the *Quarterly Review* on Mr. Fox. He thus winds up his quasi-critical depreciation.—

"One cannot say of Sir Robert Peel, notwithstanding his unrivalled powers of despatching affairs, that he was the greatest minister that this country ever produced, because, twice placed at the helm, and on the second occasion with the court and the parliament equally devoted to him, he never could maintain himself in power. Nor, notwithstanding his consummate parliamentary tactics, can he be described as the greatest party leader that ever flourished among us, for he contrived to destroy the most compact, powerful, and devoted party that ever followed a British statesman. Certainly, notwithstanding his great sway in debate, we cannot recognize him as our greatest orator, for in many of the supreme requisites of oratory he was singularly deficient. But what he really was, and what posterity will acknowledge him to have been, is the greatest member of parliament that ever lived. Peace to his ashes! His name will be often appealed to in that scene which he loved so well and never without homage even by his opponents."

The best homage to Sir Robert Peel's recent grave on Mr. Disraeli's part would have been silence. Turn from his ungenerous and lengthened essay to a single sentence of Lord Derby's tribute in the House of Peers:—"He was, my Lords, a great man, lamented by universal Europe." The excuse for Mr. Disraeli's blindness to such merits lies in his professed idolatry of "party." The word is found in nearly every page of the book before us,—and the fiercely gladiatorial spirit described as existing amongst our statesmen is, we hope, an unconscious exaggeration of the literary artist. So that they thrust Sir Robert Peel from power, Lord

George and Mr. Disraeli seemed to think that they would have done glorious things. "The large majority in the House of Lords had extinguished in many hearts the lingering hope that the ministerial measure might be defeated. Vengeance, therefore, had succeeded in most breasts to the more sanguine sentiment. The field was lost, but there should be retribution at any rate for the men who had betrayed it," &c. &c. Then he lingers fondly on the final scene in which the fall of the Minister was accomplished.—

"At length, about half-past one o'clock, the galleries were cleared, the division called, and the question put. In almost all previous divisions where the fate of a government had been depending the vote of every member with scarcely an exception had been anticipated: that was not the case in the present instance, and the direction which members took as they left their seats was anxiously watched. More than one hundred protectionist members followed the minister; more than eighty avoided the division, a few of these however had paired; nearly the same number followed Lord George Bentinck. But it was not merely their numbers that attracted the anxious observation of the treasury bench as the protectionists passed in defiance before the minister to the hostile lobby. It was impossible that he could have marked them without emotion: the flower of that great party which had been so proud to follow one who had been so proud to lead them. They were men to gain whose hearts and the hearts of their fathers had been the aim and exultation of his life. They had extended to him an unlimited confidence and an admiration without stint. They had stood by him in the darkest hour, and had borne him from the depths of political despair to the proudest of living positions. Right or wrong, they were men of honour, breeding, and refinement, high and generous character, great weight and station in the country, which they had ever placed at his disposal. They had been not only his followers but his friends; had joined in the same pastimes, drank from the same cup, and in the pleasantness of private life had often forgotten together the cares and strife of politics. He must have felt something of this, while the Manners, the Somersets, the Bentincks, the Lowthers, and the Lennoxes, passed before him. And those country gentlemen, 'those gentlemen of England' of whom, but five years ago, the very same building was ringing with his pride of being the leader.—If his heart were hardened to Sir Charles Burrell, Sir William Jolliffe, Sir Charles Knightly, Sir John Trollope, Sir Edward Kerriou, Sir John Tyrell, he surely must have had a pang, when his eye rested on Sir John Yarle Buller, his choice and pattern country gentleman, whom he had himself selected and invited but six years back to move a vote of want of confidence in the whig government, in order, against the feeling of the court, to instal Sir Robert Peel in their stead. They trooped on: all the men of metal and large-acred squires, whose spirit he had so often quickened and whose counsel he had so often solicited in his fine conservative speeches in Whitehall gardens: Mr. Banks, with a parliamentary name of two centuries, and Mr. Christopher from that broad Lincolnshire which protection had created; and the Mileses and the Henleys were there; and the Duncobes, the Liddels, and the Yorkes; and Devon had sent there the stout heart of Mr. Buck—and Wiltshire, the pleasant presence of Walter Long. Mr. Newdegate was there, whom Sir Robert had himself recommended to the confidence of the electors of Warwickshire, as one of whom he had the highest hopes; and Mr. Alderman Thompson was there, who, also through Sir Robert's selection, had seconded the assault upon the whigs, led on by Sir John Buller. But the list is too long; or good names remain behind. * * The news that the government were not only beaten, but by a majority so large as seventy-three, began to circulate. An incredulous murmur passed it along the treasury bench. 'They may be beaten by seventy-three!' whispered the most important member of the cabinet in a tone of surprise to Sir Robert Peel. Sir Robert did not reply or even turn his head. He looked very grave, and extended his chin as was his habit when he was annoyed and cared not to speak. He began to

comprehend his position, and that the emperor was without his army."

On the subject of Sir Robert Peel's susceptibility on occasions like this, Mr. Disraeli tells the following anecdote, referring to another debate.—

"It was about this time, that a strange incident occurred at the adjournment of the house. The minister, plunged in profound and perhaps painful reverie, was unconscious of the termination of the proceedings of the night, and remained in his seat unmoved. At that period, although with his accustomed and admirable self-control he rarely evinced any irritability in the conduct of parliamentary business, it is understood, that under less public circumstances, he was anxious and much disquieted. His colleagues, lingering for awhile, followed the other members and left the house, and those on whom, from the intimacy of their official relations with Sir Robert, the office of rousing him would have devolved, hesitated from some sympathy with his unusual susceptibility to perform that duty, though they remained watching their chief behind the speaker's chair. The benches had become empty, the lights were about to be extinguished; it is a duty of a clerk of the house to examine the chamber before the doors are closed, and to-night it was also the strange lot of this gentleman to disturb the reverie of a statesman."

We must try to find room for the most pathetic and best written passage in the whole volume:—the description of O'Connell's last appearance in the House of Commons.—

"He sat in an unusual place—in that generally occupied by the leader of the opposition, and spoke from the red box, convenient to him from the number of documents to which he had to refer. His appearance was of great debility and the tones of his voice were very still. His words indeed only reached those who were immediately around him, and the ministers sitting on the other side of the green table, and listening with that interest and respectful attention which became the occasion. It was a strange and touching spectacle to those who remembered the form of colossal energy and the clear and thrilling tones that had once startled, disturbed, and controlled, senates. Mr. O'Connell was on his legs for nearly two hours, assisted occasionally in the management of his documents by some devoted aide-de-camp. To the house generally it was a performance of dumb show, a feeble old man muttering before a table; but respect for the great parliamentary personage kept all as orderly as if the fortunes of a party hung upon his rhetoric; and though not an accent reached the gallery, means were taken that next morning the country should not lose the last and not the least interesting of the speeches of one who had so long occupied and agitated the mind of nations. This remarkable address was an abnegation of the whole policy of Mr. O'Connell's career. It proved by a mass of authentic evidence ranging over a long term of years, that Irish outrage was the consequence of physical misery, and that the social evils of that country could not be successfully encountered by political remedies. To complete the picture, it concluded with a panegyric of Ulster and a patriotic quotation from Lord Clare."

We take our leave of this book by warning our readers that they will find it drier reading than they might suppose from our extracts. The Lord George Bentinck of private life—of the Guards—the clubs—the turf—is entirely kept out of its pages,—over which the spirit of the Blue Books breathes heavily. It has few anecdotes,—no revelations,—no vivid descriptions;—and may be fairly described as a most ponderous Protectionist pamphlet, garnished with some mordant strictures on the statesmanship of Peel.

We must not omit to add, that a long chapter is dedicated to Mr. Disraeli's views of Jewish Emancipation. It is written in the Ben Sidonia style of the Jew in 'Coningsby.' "The Jews," he says, "are essentially Conservative; and therefore"—but we cannot give his political reasonings. We conclude with his confession on ethnology:—"The truth is, progress and

reaction are but words to mystify the millions. They mean nothing:—they are phrases, not facts. All is race." The flippancy of this is more amusing when one recollects Lord Stanley—the chief of Mr. Disraeli's party—having severely rebuked a parliamentary opponent for introducing "race" into political questions. But even in his gravest performances it is hard to know whether Mr. Disraeli is not laughing at his reader—and at himself.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

Floral Poems; with Pictures in the Flowers. The Poetry by F. W. N. Bayley, Esq.—*The Floral Months of England.* By Jane G. Giraud. Ackermann & Co.

THE latter of the above-named winter-garlands must be mentioned first, because it can be praised as charmingly adding to the stores of grace and remembrance which belong to this cheerful season. The drawing of the floral subjects, with little exception, displays a happy union of freedom and correctness:—while, in all cases where the tint of the flower is strong enough to conceal the coarseness of its crayon outlines, the illustrations may be cited as among the most successful additions recently made to our stores of coloured lithographs.—The letter-press is confined to simple lists of the wild flowers of the several seasons, handsomely printed on scrolls illuminated in the formal fantastical fashion of the old Missal.

With regard to the 'Floral Poems,' we ought to speak less prosaically. What the guitar-playing sylphs and the ouphes and elves, that attitudinize among the Pinks, Roses, Heartsease, &c. &c. here assembled are doing, we are, nevertheless, unable to tell. Mr. F. W. N. Bayley must himself be their exponent to sentimental Christmas-keepers.—

"Nature herself," says he, "with her loveliest robe upon her—her robe of Flowers—comes first. She tells, by the voices of her blossoming interpreters, her pretty fictions—and sweet stories they are—bathed in Iris hues."

Then, he proceeds to point out what Art does,—lastly, the part taken by Poetry in the dainty enchantment.—For any further explanation the reader must go to the book itself. The matter is too delicate for the rude handling of critics. The volume will doubtless have its own class of admirers amid the varied seekers after excitement at this festival time.

Amongst Christmas Books we may very fairly mention—because it will form an admirable Christmas present for a younger class of readers, though it will survive the season—*Little Henry's Holiday at the Great Exhibition.* This little book, copiously illustrated, is in the form of a dialogue between a father and his children,—and attempts, very successfully, to interest the young in the Crystal Palace and its contents, by details conveying much useful information in forms suited to their capacities and tastes.

In this article we may mention too, as amongst the beautifully embellished volumes of the season—meant for the moment as gift-books, but which will be ornaments of the drawing-room table at all times—an edition of *The Poetical Works of Sir Walter Scott*, rich in engravings, published by the Messrs. Black, of Edinburgh—and a publication by Mr. Bogue of *Poems, by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*, illustrated with upwards of one hundred wood engravings, than which as a whole we have not for some time seen anything more charming. Both volumes are richly and fancifully bound.

Synopsis of the Vegetable Products of Scotland. By Peter Lawson & Son. Edinburgh, Lawson.

FEW of those who visited the Great Exhibition will have forgotten the extensive series of fittings in the South Gallery devoted to a display of the vegetable products of Scotland. We called attention to it at the time, as interesting for its exhibition of what are the productive capabilities in relation to the vegetable kingdom of not only Scotland, but of the British Islands generally. We shall find few things grown in Scotland that may not be cultivated elsewhere in Britain,—and few things growing elsewhere in Britain that will not thrive equally well in Scotland. All who are interested in the productions of the soil will be glad to know that the slender account of this collection of Scotch products which the Catalogues of the Great Exhibition gave has been extended by the publication of a special Catalogue entering into details with regard to every article thus exhibited.

The arrangement of this Catalogue serves to show the nature and uses of the vegetable substances exhibited. Thus, the whole work—which is a goodly quarto—is divided into five parts, under the following heads:—Plants cultivated—1, for their seeds and straw—2, for their herbage and forage—3, chiefly for their roots—4, for their uses in the arts and manufactures—5, for timber, bark, fruit, and ornament.

The detailed descriptions of plants are preceded by an introduction embracing a history of the agriculture of Scotland,—more especially indicating the circumstances and the period of the introduction of any new plant. If we glance for a moment at the Catalogue, we discover how few of the plants which are now necessities of life to us are indigenous to our own islands. As to how wheat, barley, oats, rye came to be cultivated in Great Britain at all, we lack positive information. Wheat, which we find nowhere truly wild, was probably brought here with the first settlers in these islands. The oat was found wild by Bruce in Abyssinia. The Romans first saw rye in Great Britain. We are indebted, however, to the Romans for many of our fruit trees,—and they first taught us to produce grain for profitable exportation. Subsequent additions were made to our vegetable productions by the Normans,—and also by the ecclesiastical institutions of the Middle Ages. The Crusaders introduced some new plants into Europe:—as, the French bean, buck wheat, the poppy,—also other plants of less value, and many weeds. Gradually, as commerce has extended, new plants have been introduced; and every year is increasing the number of useful vegetable productions cultivated in Great Britain.

In the history of the introduction of plants, few have been of more importance than the potato. It was known two centuries as a rarity of the garden before it was cultivated as field produce. A curious prejudice retarded its use amongst the Scotch:—they found no mention of it in the Bible. They seemed to have forgotten that their favourite oat was in the same predicament. The orthodox might learn a lesson from this incident if they wished.

The information given under the head of each particular variety of plant mentioned is very full,—and will render this Catalogue valuable to the practical agriculturist. Thus, in the first division we find no less than 179 varieties of wheat described. The varieties of rye, barley, oats, millet, and maize are also included. We hoped to have found here some account of the limits in height and in latitude within which these grains will grow. It is well known that wheat which will ripen its fruit at a consider-

able elevation above the sea in the southern parts of this country will do so only at the level of the sea at Aberdeen. It is especially important for the experimental agriculturist to be acquainted with the limits of altitude, longitude and temperature within which plants will severally yield the products that are of use to man. Such knowledge would prevent the constant repetition of useless experiments, by pointing out the true causes of failure,—and would at the same time suggest the introduction of plants hitherto unknown amongst us.

In the second division we find an account of the grasses grown in Scotland for herbage. These are pretty well known to English agriculturists; but many of the remarks on the properties and culture of the species will be found of value.—Under this head we have also a full account of the clovers, vetches, peas, and other leguminous plants consumed as forage by horses and cattle.—In this section will further be found notices of plants recently introduced or only rarely used:—forming a suitable reference for those who would wish to indulge in experimental farming.—Of plants reared for their roots, carrots, turnips and potatoes are the most conspicuous;—although the botanist tells us that the part of the potato eaten is the stem, and not the root. For practical purposes this is not a matter of importance.

In the fourth and fifth divisions we have descriptions of plants yielding fibres—as, hemp and flax,—those yielding dyes—as, madder and woad,—and the various kinds of forest and fruit trees. In each of these departments the practical economist will find subjects for thought. It appears, that many of our common weeds not now applied to any useful purpose contain colouring matters capable of producing various dyes. We were much struck with this fact at the Exhibition,—and should imagine that this department of inquiry would well repay the talent of some enterprising chemist. But it is just here that we have failed. The Exhibition has shown us that we have excellent chemists and excellent workmen,—but it has also shown that our artizans are not such good chemists as those of the Continent, and that our chemists do not understand so well as those of France and of Germany the processes going on in our manufactures. If the Crystal Palace had taught us only this, it would have been to us worth more than all that it cost. It has done—and is to do—many a good thing more:—and one of the proofs of its value in a relation in which at first it was not contemplated that it would prove to be of any use, is, the publication of this 'Synopsis of the Vegetable Products of Scotland.'

NEW NOVELS.

ON closing for the year this article, it is scarcely possible to avoid pausing to amend its title,—which, indeed, might run '*New (by courtesy)*' so far as concerns nine-tenths of the delicate distresses belonging to ninety out of the hundred tales that form the heavy provision of light reading for any given quarter. Still, the stream of Fiction flows uninterruptedly forth;—and since, despite of anything that we might say, "so 'twill be when we are gone," our burden would grow none the lighter were we to lose heart or temper over the task of finding the "good in everything,"—even in the thousandth three-volume romance which lies on the table to be disposed of ere we can take our Christmas holidays!—

The Death Flag. By Miss Crumpe, Author of 'Geraldine of Desmond.' 3 vols. Shoberl.

WHATEVER be her other sins, Miss Crumpe is innocent of one fault of the day rebuked by Sir E. Lytton, in the preface to 'Lucretia,'

—impatience. Twenty years, or thereabouts, have elapsed since her former romance—'Geraldine of Desmond'—was published;—as long a period since the minor literary circles of London were occupied with the news how the poet Campbell had allowed some of her verses to go abroad under the powerful protection of his name.—But patience in an author should mean also progress. If we state that 'The Death Flag' is in the style of "twenty years since,"—such is only the literal truth;—and our character of the book, instead of conveying reproach, is intended to invite those who still love the prolixity, solemn elaborateness, and somewhat stilted passion of a by-gone school. Such novel-readers yet exist,—and they will delight in the abduction of the two lovely heroines by the wicked Buccaneer O'Sullivan,—will consider the Skellig landscapes as painted with the sublime wildness of Rosa,—will accept the full-length picture of Prince Charles Edward, the Pretender, (whose latest attempts on the English crown form what may be called the main incidents of the book,) as historically beautiful and charmingly true,—and will be exhilarated by the out-spoken yet complicated coquetries of Widow Chatterlie at "the drum" from which the beauteous Miss O'Moore was cruelly carried away.—To readers whose tastes lie in the direction of incident rather than of probable truth, and who prefer a style where resonance predominates over Nature, 'The Death Flag' may be cordially commended. With those whose requisitions are more modern, the tale will hardly make its way.

Bothwell; or, the Days of Mary, Queen of Scots. By James Grant, Esq., Author of 'The Romance of War.' 3 vols. Parry & Co.

'Bothwell' is of the school of 'The Death Flag,'—but belongs to a lower form. Many years ago, the latter days of the buccaneer lover of Mary Stuart, on the verge of the wild North Sea, were made the subject of a dramatic poem by the "Corn-law Rhymers;"—but whereas, in his work the hand of the real dramatist was to be traced,—in the present one, we have the twang and the tawdriness of the booth. There is some foundation—as the publications of the Bannatyne Club had already apprised the antiquarian—for the existence of Bothwell's first wife, who is said to have been a Norwegian lady, Anne Thronsdon. The separation of the pair prior to Bothwell's visit to Scotland is told in the dialect not of Norway, but of No-man's Land.—

"My dear Lord!" said she, in a faint voice, "so thou art come to me again!"—"I have come, Anna, but to bid thee farewell." Her large eyes dilated with sudden alarm and grief. "I told thee, Anna, that in Orkney we might have to separate for a time, ere I could convey thee to my household and my home. The wind is blowing right across the stormy Frith toward the mainland of Scotland, and though love cries ho! my skipper is urgent, and still more so is stern necessity. Farewell for a time—for a brief time, sweet Anna, I must leave thee," continued the Earl kissing her repeatedly to pacify her. Her beauty was very alluring, and until that moment he knew not how deep was his passion for her. "In that busy world of turmoil and intrigue on which thou art about to re-enter—I will be forgotten. Thou mayest not return to me, and I—I will!"—"What?"—"Die!"—"Speak not, think not, my dearest Anna!" replied Bothwell, who felt his resolution wavering, though the thoughts of ambition and the taunts of Ormiston urged him on the path he had commenced. "We must separate—but we must meet again!"

Nor are Mary of Scotland, the gaieties of her court, the hideous tragedy of the Kirk of Field, and her ill-starred marriage with the head conspirator, more happily or naturally rendered.

In the case of the Queen of Scots, maltreatment has been made all the more obvious by the existence of such a life-breathing and fascinating portrait as the one existing in Scott's 'Abbot.' To sum up,—'Bothwell' must be characterized as hardly rising to the old fashioned sky-blue scarlet standard of the Minerva Press.

Antony, the Deaf and Dumb Boy. 2 vols. Bentley.

IF 'The Death Flag' be a little too mature in style,—if 'Bothwell' be somewhat too fine,—'Antony' is about as much too new and namby pamby. It is a sickly story; nor will any disguising of the truth mend the matter. So angelic is Antony, the deaf and dumb boy,—so superior to most of the hearing and speaking characters in genius, in cultivation, in judgment, and in every virtuous affection,—as to excite the suspicion that to be without his senses is a hero's best estate. Why not, if such were the author's view, have also made Antony blind? The unreality of these modern tales of trial deprives their lesson of all its application to the common pilgrim of life. Hope, patience and charity rising superior to bodily pain and physical incompleteness is a noble and not an apocryphal spectacle; but that disease and malformation do not commonly impress the character with particular scars and signs, with singularities of humour, and with delicacies of morbid colour unknown to more happily constituted persons, is untrue. The author seems aware of the fallacy in the argument and conduct of his own story,—since, by way of catastrophe, and it may be presumed as a fairy reward for the superhuman virtues of his hero under privation, Antony is made in the last pages of the last volume to recover his hearing.—The style of this tale is vaguely transcendental and sweetly sentimental:—in some respects, more American than English.

The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution. By Benson J. Lossing. Vol. I. New York, Harper.

THIS is the commencement of a topographical history of the American War of Independence; and Mr. Lossing is at once historian, antiquary, and artist,—for it is a main object of the book to present to the eye as well as to the mind accurate pictures of the leading scenes and incidents of the struggle which made America a free nation and reduced this country to the most humiliating condition to which hitherto it has ever descended. We have scarcely ever met with a publication more genuine and *bona fide* than the present. The sketches of landscapes and of natural and artificial objects with which the pages are thickly bestrewn have been honestly drawn on the spot,—the stories, anecdotes, and traditions which fill every chapter have been really obtained from the recital of local worthies. "To collect," says the author, "the pictorial and other materials for this work, I travelled more than 8,000 miles in the old thirteen States and Canada, and visited every important place made memorable by the events of the war." This is saying a great deal certainly; but not more than we have every reason to believe is true. Mr. Lossing is, of course, an enthusiast in the task which he has undertaken. He sees everything with the eye of a revolutionary partisan, and there is scarcely a line in the volume which is not influenced more or less by this strong partiality. Still, the work is not an unfair one,—for there is a great difference between strong opinions and a disposition to misrepresentation. Mr. Lossing does not do justice to the loyal party, nor to the British officers and adherents who took an active part in the contest. But he is

quite willing to admit that they were enemies of no common kind—that generosity and daring were not confined to the American camp—and that at this time of day, when seventy years have cooled down the passions of that unhappy contest, we might well afford to be impartial in our retrospect of events which can never be repeated.

In America we can imagine that Mr. Lossing's book will meet with a wide popularity. Its merits are certainly of a high order, and will raise the European estimate of the taste and resources of the United States in the production of the highest order of illustrated works. A London publisher would have brought out the book in a style of greater perfection than it has been found possible to attain at New York. The binding would have been at once more brilliant and more chaste, and the pages would have been less crowded with type and woodcuts, and also more ornamental. But it cannot be denied that all the substantial qualities of elegance are to be found in this publication of the Messrs. Harper. The mechanical execution of the woodcuts is frequently better than the artistic merit of the sketches which they transmit; although it would be unfair not to point out that the exceptions to this remark are numerous and important. In every case, however, there is the strong charm of faithfulness and character. Whether the artist brings before us the crumbling monument which threatens soon to disappear through pillage and neglect from the spot where Wolfe expired on the Heights of Abraham, or that desolate looking valley at Saratoga which witnessed a capitulation of British soldiers still remembered with shame and indignation by the people of this country,—we are always sure that Mr. Lossing does his best to depict on paper localities which he has seen and attentively examined.—While we are speaking of Saratoga, let us not forget to say that Mr. Lossing confirms the statement which has been once or twice made before, to the effect that General Gates, with a delicacy of feeling of which, speaking generally, the American leaders possessed sadly too little, would not permit either his officers or his army to witness the surrender of Burgoyne and his companions in arms. "The British army," says Mr. Lossing, writing on the fatal Heights of Fish Creek, "left their camp upon the hills and marched sorrowfully down upon the 'green,' a level plain in front of old Fort Hardy, where the different companies were drawn up in parallel lines, and by order of their several commanders grounded their arms and emptied their cartridge-boxes. They were not subject to the mortification of thus submitting under the eye of an exulting foe; for General Gates, with a delicacy and magnanimity of feeling which drew forth the expressed admiration of Burgoyne and his officers, had ordered all his army within his camp out of sight of the vanquished Britons. Col. Wilkinson, who had been sent to the British camp, and in company with Burgoyne selected the place where the troops were to lay down their arms, was the only American officer present at the scene."

This took place on the 17th of October, 1777. It was one of the greatest reverses which had ever befallen the British arms,—and no second discomfiture so ignominious has happily occurred during the seventy-four years which have now elapsed since the name of Saratoga became engraved on the memories of Englishmen. We think it must be considered that when the news of Burgoyne's surrender reached England at the close of 1777, this country entered on perhaps the most trying and painful crisis through which it has passed since the flight of James the Second. Everything was against us:—a weak

ministry, a violent opposition, discontent in the towns, the whole country disheartened, the army dispirited, the Continent leagued against us, the fleet dependent for men upon press-gangs in the inland towns and villages, and not a single man was there in the whole compass of the nation who had at once the will and the power to become a deliverer. Still, the crisis was overcome with an amount of difficulty and damage marvellously small; and whenever we hear exclamations of despair uttered now-a-days at the prospects of England, it is no small consolation to be able to look back on the mighty perils which these islands had elasticity and strength enough to surmount in the winter of 1777—8. The news of the Saratoga catastrophe reached London on the 3rd of December, 1777. Parliament had been sitting since the 18th of November; and on the very day before the arrival of the Quebec express, a motion made by Fox in the Commons for certain papers connected with the war had been rejected by 178 votes to 89. Barré heard the news in the early part of the day, and was down early at the House watching for the arrival of Lord George Germaine; and as soon as that official person assumed his seat, the Colonel rising with a stern and solemn countenance demanded to know what was the purport of the latest intelligence from the seat of war. Germaine faltered a good deal in his reply; but he recovered himself before he sat down, and had spirit enough to tell his questioner that if the expedition had failed he had the honour to say that the minister who planned it (meaning himself) was there to answer for the consequences.

But we are running away from Mr. Lossing and his book. Finding Mr. Lossing so well able to clear up obscurities, we turned with considerable interest to the account which we were sure he would insert somewhere of the famous story of Miss M'Crea, who was scalped by the Indians almost within the lines of Burgoyne's camp in July, 1777. Some of our readers will have fallen in with the controversy which prevailed at one time as to the real facts of this tragic tale. In the discussions which arose in Parliament out of the Saratoga affair, none were of greater interest than those which related to the employment of Indians in the American contest. In the House of Lords some of the finest passages of Lord Chatham's eloquence were called forth by those discussions; and in the House of Commons Burke delivered a speech, on the 6th of February, 1778, which, while it was perhaps one of the most amazing efforts of the genius of that wonderful man, has been almost wholly unpreserved. Burke moved for papers connected with the Indian auxiliaries; and in doing so, condemned in the strongest manner the employment of savages as the allies in war of any civilized or Christian nation. He spoke for three hours and a half to a full and excited House; but to an empty gallery, for the ministers had taken care to lock out every stranger,—and it was in allusion to this circumstance that Governor Johnstone said it was very fortunate for the two noble lords (North and Germaine) that somebody had been so careful of their persons, for if any portion of the public had heard the speech just delivered, ministers would have been in imminent danger of being torn to pieces on their way home. Miss M'Crea's story was turned to great account in Burke's speech. He dwelt on all the circumstances of the sad catastrophe, and heightened in the recital—as only he could heighten—every part of the narrative calculated to produce an impression. There is no doubt that at the time great exaggeration prevailed as to the real facts of the case. Still, the occurrence was painful enough when stripped of every imaginative colouring; and we are thankful to Mr. Lossing for having in the fol-

lowing narrative laid before the world what appears to be a faithful version of an event which exercised no small influence upon the generation that took part in the War of Independence. The following is Mr. Lossing's narrative.—

"The first place of historic interest that we visited at Fort Edward was the venerable and blasted pine-tree near which, tradition asserts, the unfortunate Jane M'Crea lost her life while General Burgoyne had his encampment near Sandy Hill. It stands upon the west side of the road leading from Fort Edward to Sandy Hill, and about half a mile from the canal-lock in the former village. The tree had exhibited unaccountable signs of decadence for several years, and when we visited it, it was sapless and bare. Its top was torn off by a November gale, and almost every breeze diminishes its size by scattering its decayed twigs. The trunk is about five feet in diameter, and upon the bark is engraved, in bold letters, Jane M'Crea, 1777. The names of many ambitious visitors are entaglio'd upon it, and reminded me of the line—

Run, run, Orlando, carve on every tree.

I carefully sketched all its branches, and the engraving is a faithful portraiture of the interesting relic, as viewed from the opposite side of the road. In a few years this tree, around which history and romance have clustered so many associations, will crumble and pass away for ever. * * * All accounts agree that Miss M'Crea was staying at the house of Mrs. M'Neil, near the fort, at the time of the tragedy. A granddaughter of Mrs. M'Neil (Mrs. F—n) is now living at Fort Edward, and from her I received a minute account of the whole transaction, as she had heard it a 'thousand times' from her grandmother. She was a woman of remarkable intelligence, about sixty years old. When I was at Fort Edward she was on a visit with her sister at Glenn's Falls. It had been my intention to go direct to Whitehall, on Lake Champlain, by way of Fort Ann, but the traditionary accounts in the neighbourhood of the event in question were so contradictory of the books, and I received such assurances that perfect reliance might be placed upon the statements of Mrs. F—n, that anxious to ascertain the truth of the matter, if possible, we went to Lake Champlain by way of Glenn's Falls and Lake George. After considerable search at the falls, I found Mrs. F—n, and the following is her relation of the tragedy at Fort Edward:—Jane M'Crea was the daughter of a Scotch Presbyterian clergyman of Jersey City, opposite New York; and while Mrs. M'Neil (then the wife of a former husband named Campbell) was a resident of New York City, an acquaintance and intimacy had grown up between Jenny and her daughter. After the death of Campbell (which occurred at sea) Mrs. Campbell married M'Neil. He, too, was lost at sea, and she removed with her family to an estate owned by him at Fort Edward. Mr. M'Crea, who was a widower, died, and Jane went to live with her brother near Fort Edward, where the intimacy of former years with Mrs. M'Neil and her daughter was renewed, and Jane spent much of her time at Mrs. M'Neil's house. Near her brother's lived a family named Jones, consisting of a widow and six sons, and between Jenny and David Jones, a gay young man, a feeling of friendship budded and ripened into reciprocal love. When the war broke out the Joneses took the royal side of the question, and David and his brother Jonathan went to Canada in the autumn of 1776. They raised a company of about sixty men, under a pretext of reinforcing the American garrison at Ticonderoga, but they went further down the lake, and joined the British garrison at Crown Point. When Burgoyne collected his forces at St. John's, at the foot of Lake Champlain, David and Jonathan Jones were among them. Jonathan was made captain and David lieutenant in the division under General Fraser, and at the time in question they were with the British army near Sandy Hill. Thus far accounts nearly agree. The brother of Jenny was a whig, and prepared to move to Albany; but Mrs. M'Neil, who was a cousin of General Fraser (killed at Stillwater), was a staunch loyalist, and intended to remain at Fort Edward. When the British were near, Jenny was at Mrs. M'Neil's, and lingered there after repeated solicitations from her brother to return to his house, five miles further

down the river, to be ready to flee when necessity should compel. A faint hope that she might meet her lover doubtless was the secret of her tarrying. At last her brother sent a peremptory order for her to join him, and she promised to go down in a large bateau which was expected to leave with several families on the following day. Early next morning (July 27th, 1777) a black servant belonging to Mrs. McNeil espied some Indians stealthily approaching the house, and, giving the alarm to the inmates, he fled to the Fort, about eighty rods distant. Mrs. McNeil's daughter, the young friend of Jenny, and mother of my informant, was with some friends in Argyle, and the family consisted of only the widow and Jenny, and two small children and a black servant. As usual at that time, the kitchen stood a few feet from the house; and when the alarm was given the black woman snatched up the children, fled to the kitchen, and retreated through a trapdoor to the cellar. Mrs. McNeil and Jenny followed, but the former being aged and very corpulent, and the latter young and agile, Jenny reached the trap-door first. Before Mrs. McNeil could fully descend, the Indians were in the house, and a powerful savage seized her by the hair and dragged her up. Another went into the cellar, and brought out Jenny, but the black face of the negro woman was not seen in the dark, and she and the children remained unharmed. With the two women the savages started off, on the road toward Sandy Hill, for Burgoyne's camp; and when they came to the foot of the ascent on which the pine tree stands, where the road forked, they caught two horses that were grazing, and attempted to place their prisoners upon them. Mrs. McNeil was too heavy to be lifted on the horse easily, and as she signified by signs that she could not ride, two stout Indians took her by the arms and hurried her up the road over the hill, while the others, with Jenny on the horse, went along the road running west of the tree. The negro boy who ran to the fort gave the alarm, and a small detachment was immediately sent out to effect a rescue. They fired several volleys at the Indians, but the savages escaped unharmed. Mrs. McNeil said, that the Indians who were hurrying her up the hill, seemed to watch the flash of the guns, and several times they threw her upon her face, at the same time falling down themselves, and she distinctly heard the balls whistle above them. When they got above the second hill from the village, the firing ceased; they then stopped, stripped her of all her garments except her chemise, and in that plight led her into the British camp. There she met her kinsman, General Fraser, and reproached him bitterly for sending his 'scoundrel Indians' after her. He denied all knowledge of her being away from the city of New York, and took every pains to make her comfortable. She was so large that not a woman in the camp had a gown big enough for her, so Fraser lent her his camp-coat for a garment, and a pocket handkerchief as a substitute for her stolen cap. Very soon after Mrs. McNeil was taken into the British camp, two parties of Indians arrived with scalps. She at once recognized the long glossy hair of Jenny, and though shuddering with horror, boldly charged the savages with her murder, which they stoutly denied. They averred that, while hurrying her along the road, on horseback, near the spring west of the pine tree, a bullet from one of the American guns, intended for them, mortally wounded the poor girl, and she fell from her horse. Sure of losing a prisoner by death, they took her scalp as the next best thing to do, and that they bore in triumph to the camp, to obtain the promised reward for such trophies. Mrs. McNeil always believed the story of the Indians to be true, for she knew that they were fired upon by the detachment from the fort, and it was far more to their interest to carry a prisoner than a scalp to the British commander,—the price for the former being much greater. In fact, the Indians were so restricted by Burgoyne's humane instructions respecting the taking of scalps, that their chief solicitude was to bring a prisoner alive and unharmed into the camp. And the probability that Miss McCrea was killed as they alleged is strengthened by the fact that they took the corpulent Mrs. McNeil, with much fatigue and difficulty uninjured to the British lines, while Miss McCrea, quite light and already on horseback, might have been carried

off with far greater ease. It was known in camp that Lieut. Jones was betrothed to Jenny, and the story got abroad that he had sent the Indians for her, that they quarrelled on the way respecting the reward he had offered, and murdered her to settle the dispute. Receiving high touches of colouring as it went from one narrator to another, the sad story became a tale of darkest horror, and produced a deep and wide-spread indignation. * * Burgoyne, who was at Fort Ann, instituted an inquiry into the matter. He summoned the Indians to council, and demanded the surrender of the man who bore off the scalp, to be punished as a murderer. Lieut. Jones denied all knowledge of the matter, and utterly disclaimed any such participation as the sending of a letter to Jenny, or of an Indian escort to bring her to camp. He had no motive for so doing, for the American army was then retreating; a small guard only was at Fort Edward, and in a day or two the British would have full possession, when he could have a personal interview with her. Burgoyne, instigated by motives of policy rather than judgment and inclination, pardoned the savage who scalped poor Jenny, fearing that a total defection of the Indians would be the result of his punishment. Lieut. Jones, chilled with horror and broken in spirit by the event, tendered a resignation of his commission, but it was refused. He purchased the scalp of his Jenny, and with this cherished memento deserted, with his brother, before the army reached Saratoga, and retired to Canada. Various accounts have been given respecting the subsequent fate of Lieut. Jones. Some assert that, perfectly desperate and careless of life, he rushed into the thickest of the battle on Bemis's Heights, and was slain; while others allege that he died within three years afterward, heart-broken and insane. But neither assertion is true. While searching for Mrs. T—n among her friends at Glenn's Falls, I called at the house of Judge R—s, whose lady is related by marriage to the family of Jones. Her aunt married a brother of Lieut. Jones, and she often heard this lady speak of him. He lived in Canada to be an old man, and died but a few years ago. The death of Jenny was a heavy blow, and he never recovered from it. In youth he was gay and exceedingly garrulous, but after that terrible event he was melancholy and taciturn. He never married, and avoided society as much as business would permit. Toward the close of July in every year, when the anniversary of the tragedy approached, he would shut himself in his room, and refuse the sight of any one; and at all times his friends avoided any reference to the Revolution in his presence."

We shall await the appearance of Mr. Lossing's second volume with impatience. We cannot admit that Mr. Lossing is an impartial commentator on a series of historical events which neither his country nor our own can ever forget or undervalue,—but wholesome and open prejudice we can admire, and honesty, ability and research must not be denied their reward.

POETRY OF THE MILLION.

If we have long seemed to neglect our Poets of the Million, it is fitting that on this extreme verge of the year we should give them one more assurance that they are never forgotten. Their perseverance under every possible discouragement is a claim to our regard, if it be a prosaic one,—and their multitude guarantees them against oblivion. Without being satisfied in our consciences that we are doing a friendly act—and at their own risk—we must admit a few representatives of the body to our Christmas board. The minstrels who follow in the train of Father Christmas are for the most part of an order who need that appeal to their good intentions which at this season is so generally allowed. We could find no better time for introducing to the notice of our readers the harpings of the Rev. James Bandinel.—

On the title-page of *Lufra; or, the Content of Algarve*, by this gentleman, we find once again

that ominous admonition which Dante transcribed from the Gates of Punishment:—

Lasciate ogni speranza voi ch' entrate.

This time the warning "pay a double debt,"—since that which Mr. Bandinel meant should apply solely to the Convent of Algarve—from which a Protestant Walter rescued an all-but Papist Angelina—might be fitly written on the portal of his own eight cantos. Hopeless they are for any one whose search is after poetry,—though the notes which follow display controversial reading. Yet diverting as an opera-book is the tale, in spite of its argument. This is aimed at the Vatican,—being the thousandth story based on the rhyme

I won't be a nun,—

solemn, sentimental, and silly.—Here, to prove our words, is an *andante amoroso* hardly to be outdone by Haymarket or Covent Garden poet.

And quickly Walter seeks once more
With eager step the ocean's shore,
And lingers on, impatient there,
The appointed hour—now, do and dare!
He eyed the high and rugged steep
Which overhung the foaming deep.
The cliff is scaled—the brow is past,
The Convent garden ga'd at last.

Within a fragrant orange bower,
'Midst sweetest flowers the sweetest flower,
With hair that stream'd adown her shoulder
And cast aside the fatal veil,
Sat Angelina sad and pale.
How changed from her whose full dark eyes
But now beam'd forth so witchingly!—
Thus the Camellia's beauty blows
As lovely as the blushing rose,
Although its charms are still, colder.

He mark'd the features sweetly fair,
Swept by the death-blast of despair,
The lips whose lively pulse was still,
The pallid cheek, the forehead chill,
And yet that look of tenderness
E'en now more powerful than distress,
Those angel eyes whose mystic soulbeams shine
Like heavenly light within a holy shrine.

He gazed, in mute devotion hazed,
Then entering, sank on suppliant knee,
And as her eyes she slowly raised,
Cried, "Gentle lady, fear not me."

With brightest crimson glow'd her cheek,
The warm blood rush'd o'er neck and brow.
At length she summon'd strength to speak.
"Stranger, I pray thee, who art thou?
Why com'st thou here, and whence, and how?"

Here is a subsequent *allegro appassionato*, telling how Mr. Bandinel's heroine ran away—a strain which we seem to see and to hear enacted and ranted a *due* by the Lover in purple velvet, who wears the authentic black cloak of stage-mystery and deliverance, and by the Lady in a loose muslin robe, whose hair, previously confined by a classical diadem, has been let down in readiness for the agonies of the finale.—

She kneels in fervent prayer one long lone hour,
Then trembling, trusting, seeks the orange bower.

She ne'er had look'd before that night
So sadly sweet, so softly bright,
Each varied feeling seem'd to speak
In the deep glow of that pale cheek.
There was a glory in her brow
He never had beheld till now;
Her tresses dark behind her thrown,
Her eyes in mellow'd brilliance shone,
Veiling their heavenly orbs from him,
Now meek with love—with tears now dim.
Nor could the circling zone and sable vest
Repress the beauty of her struggling breast.

"Angelina!"—cried De Vere—
"Loveliest, dearest, do not fear,
Trust in him whose heart is given,
Angelina, all to thee,
Who will worship thee next Heaven,
Trust, my Love, O trust to me!"

"But I must cross the pathless sea
Alone—alone—alone with thee!"

Canto the seventh, which immediately succeeds this thrilling scene of elopement, is argumentative,—and may be described as a little *anti-Scarlet Lady* tract, done into the metre of 'The Lady of the Lake.' With the beginning of canto the eighth, "Welcome Britannia," Hope,—whom, as it may be remembered, we left behind before entering on this love-chase—

re-appears on the snowy cliffs of Protestant Albion, welcoming the lovers home from Rome, and congratulating us, as it were, that Mr. Bandinel's poem is nearly done.

Our next flight over the flowery land in which the Million toil lands us in the Principality, under the wing of D. Rice Jones Aberhonddu, —whose *Isolda*; or, the *Maid of Kidwelly*, dedicated to Lady Charlotte Guest, is less pretending than the moving narrative from the mazes of which we have just extricated ourselves. The author of 'Isolda' modestly enough assures us in his Preface, that should this venture fail to please, he will accept the discouragement, and abstain from further efforts, meekly and cheerfully. The amount of pleasure which may be given by any work somewhat depends on the public addressed. Mr. Jones seems to aim at those who love the old-fashioned elegy, pastoral, and acrostic,—as the following three verses, which commence one of his efforts, will exemplify—

How different nature's face doth now appear,
To what it did when last I view'd this spot;
Then all was lovely, beautiful, and fair,
But now all things another aspect wear,
And fill my soul with melancholy thought.
The lofty poplar, spreading elm, and beech,
The favorite hawthorn, ash, and sycamore
Were clothed with gayest verdure, but now each
In strains more sorrowful than human speech
Tells me, tells all, that Laura is no more.
The beautiful flowers, whose colours charm'd the eye,
And with their splendours deck'd the meadow o'er,
Their balmy odours now to us deny,
Hang down their melancholy heads and die,
For Laura, sweetest Laura, is no more!

Whether there remain any listeners near the Leasowes, or round the Wrekin, or up the Neath valley, or by Llanberris Lake, to be attracted by such faint echoes of the old Arcadian rhymes, we cannot pretend to divine,—though we cannot hesitate to speak to their probable fate with the hard-hearted general public of Great Britain and Ireland.

The Rhymers' Family: a Collection of Bantlings, by Thomas Watson. These are the brain children of a sprightly Scot, who figures a little in his Introduction concerning the "havings" of poets, the uses of poetry, and the dullness of the public, with the hope of producing a good impression. There is little offence in his volume; and, as often happens in similar collections, we find a ballad or two belonging to that order of homely minstrelsy which may serve pleasantly to beguile ten minutes in the harvest-field or by the chimney-corner, supposing it sung by some country lass who has never heard of Lind, and who would call Moore "affectit,"—as the Ettrick Shepherd's tailor called the Ettrick Shepherd when the latter was grammatical. Such a strain, for instance, is

The Warning.

The ladye sat within her bower,
In ward o' maidens fair,
And listened to the wailing wind
Wi' meikle dool and care.
"I hear, I hear a mournfu' voice
That mak's and melody;
I hear a strain, wi' sad refrain,
Oh, turn thee, love, and flee!
"The could drift fa' on waste and wold,
The piercin' wind blaws keen;
It's no the sheets o' driven snaw
My love should lie between;
Fu' hard is winter's icy heart,
But harder man's may be,
And lang may beat in deadly hate—
Oh, turn ye, love, and flee!

"In Lyndoch lieh hounds in leash,
And lurketh vengeful men;
In Methven's dismal, dreary woods
Is mony a darksome den;
The Almond o'er its rocky bed
Rins roaring to the sea;
My heart is sair—I can nae mair—
Oh, turn ye, love, and flee!

"Hark! Is't the bay o' fierce bloodhound?
Or is't the howling wind?"
The ladye's face is dendlly pale,
And wandering is her mind;
Her true love, till the day o' doom,
She never mair will see;
But aye she sings the sad refrain—
"Oh, turn ye, love, and flee!"

—The above might pass with such a peasant-public as we have indicated for romance and tragedy. We could quote more than one effort in the same style by worshipful and renowned lyrists, printed in "Bee's" and other anthologies, and copied in albums essentially less worthy than the song just given.

Of *Love and Loyalty*, by the Author of 'Irrelagh,' it will be best perhaps to print the argument.—

"Invocation to the Deity; two Seraphs (Love and Loyalty) descried descending earthwards; their genial influence over Britain, illustrated by George the Third's subjects' pity for his insanity; Loyalty without Love is lifeless; joyful anticipation of Christ's second advent, when Love shall truly embrace Loyalty; subject further illustrated by the lamented death of the Princess Charlotte and infant; mysterious majesty of the soul; universal grief at the death of William the Fourth. Scene changed from shade to sunshine by the gorgeously solemn coronation of Queen Victoria, and attendant exuberances of Loyal love and delight; Lament over the beloved Queen Adelaide. Joyous birth of the young Prince Albert; superstition subversive of Loyalty and Royalty; that Love wedded to Loyalty produces Industry and a desire for universal love and brotherhood, proved by the invitation of all Nations to the Crystal Palace; the opening scene; the cause of Erin advocated; her sufferings and un murmuring resignation; her triumphant struggles against a dark creed; Britain cautioned against the wiliness of Popery; for, to the Protestant Religion is she indebted for her prosperity. Anticipated millennial reign of Christ, with Love and Loyalty embracing his beloved feet; Satan bound, and Mankind blest. Appeal to Britain to spread TRUE civilization through the veins of the whole World through the medium of Holy Writ; a second appeal from Erin for the protection and kindly assistance of her more happy and blessed sister-isle; by granting which, the cords of loyal bondage where-with she is bound to England shall be exchanged for those of Loyal love and esteem; the consequent firm-based glory and union of the British Isles."

No poet, we imagine, could fill up an outline so mysterious, glowing, and altogether amazing as this. The author of 'Irrelagh' has given his little all, we admit, in performance of his task,—and so, we will not shame the strength and loftiness of his purpose by contrasting it with the gentleness of his performance.—Indeed, anything from the Poets of the Million must sound tame after an argument like this,—and here therefore we will take leave of them, with all good wishes, for the present year.

The Peloponnesus: a Geographical and Historical Description of that Peninsula—[*Peloponnesos*, &c.]. By Ernst Curtius. Vol. I. Gotha, Perthes; London, Dulau & Co.

THIS is the first half of a work the completion of which in a second volume is promised forthwith. It may be expected with interest, on the strength of what is already published, as likely to prove the most complete topography of the Grecian Peninsula, in connexion with its entire series of historic events, that has yet been produced. In the volume now before us, the author enters on his task with a full apparatus of scholarship to aid the personal survey of the scientific traveller:—and scans the material features of the land—not forgetting the present in the past—with a minuteness that will be prized as well by the student at home, as by the tourist who may hereafter visit the Peloponnesus, filled with its heroic traditions and famous histories, and longing to recall them on the very spots where they arose. This, in the Morea of our day, is not to be realized by mere wishes. Of the cities and temples the names of which are a spell to cultivated minds—of Orchomenus and Elis, of Argos and of Messene—nearly all traces have vanished from the soil. The true sites even are in many cases uncertain; and the

pilgrim must be led by the scholar to scenes which now can be determined only by learned inquiry. It is easy to smile at enthusiasm thus directed to the objects of its devotion, which by the erroneous reading of an old text, or mistake of some present feature of the scene, may expend itself in a false direction,—in the absence of actual remains and in default of all traditional certainty. But so long as it lies in human nature to hallow the graves of heroes and the shades of illustrious nations, this worship, however imaginary, will be renewed; and he is surely entitled to thanks by whose pious diligence the true object of its pursuit is raised to light from the wreck of time or war and the effacing processes of nature,—so that all may henceforth enjoy whatsoever belongs to the assurance that the very spot on which they stand was once dignified by the bright intellect or the brave deeds, by marvels of Art or mysteries of civil wisdom, the mental images of which will for ever be among the most precious of human possessions.

There is something, too, in the Peloponnesus that time has not been able wholly to obliterate,—much that remains nearly unchanged by nature, through the lapse of ages. Erymanthus still wears its crown of black forests, as in the fabulous days when Diana chased the bear in its gorges: her favourite Eurotas rolls on to the Laconian gulf the same clear waters on the banks of which she "led her virgin choir." The wide Elian plain still expands itself to the sun, as when it sounded with the triumphs of Olympic games; and the valleys of Arcadia, vocal as of old with the music of Ladon and Alpheus, are green to this day with the sweet herbage which once the shepherd deity chose for the flocks he loved.—The mythology, the human glories even, of the Peloponnesus are now grown visionary; but the land itself is a living witness yet;—and keeps its perennial monuments, to guide the wanderer who seeks the devastated place where such visions had once a real existence.

The remains or remembrances of heroic or classic times are not, however, exclusively regarded in the present survey. In any view of Greece they will of course take the foremost place,—their relics or sites must be the chief object of research. But in addition to this, Dr. Curtius follows out the later history of the Peninsula, as related to its topical features; so that whatever recalls the Roman or the Byzantine periods, or those darker times that followed through Norman, Venetian and Mohammedan conquests down to the present day, finds its due place in his pages,—which also describe the Peloponnesus as it now exists. The chorographic notices form a valuable part of this account; the alternations of hill and valley, the course and character of rivers, the elevations of basins and table lands, and the lines of mountain ridges,—all the conditions, in short, which so materially influenced the early civilization and later politics of the Peloponnesus, are traced with precision, and made clearer by maps and profile sections. Nearly all, indeed, that is comprised in the term "physical geography" has been observed and recorded; and the result is, a closer view of the outward form and structure of the land than has been afforded in any other publication that we have seen. In this respect the work improves with scientific exactness and detail upon the happy idea of Dr. Wordsworth,—whose bold sketches of topographic landmarks constitute a chief merit of his well-known 'Description of Greece.'

The present volume contains, besides the general preliminary view of the whole Peninsula in its various relations, detailed surveys of Arcadia and Achaia only:—Corinthia, Argolis,

Laconia, Messenia, and Elis remain to be described in the following section of the work. Being confined to the Peloponnesus, its plan excludes the territory which of all others has most illustrated the name of Greece,—with others rich alike in historic sites and in poetic recollections. It may, however, be hoped that the provinces lying north and east of the Cretan Gulf may become the subject of a future description,—if not as exact and minute as this of the Peloponnesus promises to be, at least as complete as can be made under the rule which prevails in the regions north of Parnassus. The educated stranger in Greece would then possess a *cade mecum*, armed with which he would be nearly independent of other modern aids to a knowledge of its entire territory.

ALMANACS FOR 1852.

FIRST on our remaining list of these useful publications is *The Literary and Scientific Register and Almanac*, compiled by Mr. J. W. G. Gutch. This annual is now in the eleventh year of its age, and with every new year it seems to grow more varied and valuable in its contents. Besides the usual information required in a pocket-book—lists of royal households, Members of Parliament, law officers, calendars, and such matters—it contains a vast collection of elementary facts, outlines of science, and art compendiums. A work of this sort, professing to give an epitome and representation of the state of science at the beginning of each year, must of course be susceptible of continual improvements,—and we notice that several new paragraphs and tables have been added to the present issue. Altogether, Mr. Gutch's annual makes an extremely useful pocket companion to the man of letters, science, or art.

Enlarged by the addition of twenty-four pages, *Rees's Improved Diary and Almanac* puts forth its double series of ruled pages—one set for memoranda, the other for cash receipts and payments—as its chief claims on the attention of a buying and selling, a paying and receiving community; but it also contains the common intelligence of an almanac.

The Meteorological Almanac is this year dedicated to M. Arago; whom, nevertheless, its weather-wise compiler tasks roundly to task for declaring it to be his opinion that "weather prophecy can never be a branch of astronomy." The usual guesses at which days next year will be wet or dry, mild or stormy, are made and put on record. Mr. Donovan is a little above the mendacious tribe of Raphaels and Zadkiels,—and only a little.

Punch is more pictorial than usual in his Almanac, but we cannot say that his efforts with the pencil this year bear comparison with those of the times gone by. His blithe Christmas faces lack somewhat of the round joyous humour which belonged to the mummers and masqueraders whom he formerly sent forth at this season. The letter-press, too, is very uneven; though some of the same kind of sparkle which made his reputation still remains:—as witness the following hints, waggeries, and admonitions.—

"*Moral of the Mistake.*—If you print a kiss—don't publish it."

"*Excess of Caution.*—An elderly single gentleman, travelling by railway, objected to go in the same carriage with his sister-in-law's wet nurse, for fear of catching cold."

"*Travelling Extraordinary.*—On Christmas-day an alderman of the city of London having eaten his beef at Clapham, walks in less than five minutes' time into Turkey."

"*Theatrical.*—Two eminent Actors, one of a past age, the other living, make one mountebank. How do you make that out? HARRY-QUEEN."

"*Philosophy of Memory.*—It is related, as astonishing, that there are some clairvoyants who can see right through anybody; but that is not so very strange. The wonder is that there should be anybody who cannot see through the clairvoyant."

"*Con. for those whom it may concern.*—When does a man love his favoured rival?—When he loves a flirt whose beloved object is herself."

"*A Shining Character.*—My character," said an alderman who had cleared himself from a charge of jobbery, "my character, sir, is like my boots—all the brighter for blacking."

"*A Good Hand of Cards for a Happy Couple.*—Lots of Hearts, a sprinkling of Diamonds, no Clubs, and one Spade—last card of all—between the partners."

"*A Goose that saves the 'Capital'* is a goose sent you by a friend, with the carriage paid."

"*Mathematical.*—If Whigs and Tories are both rogues, why are they like an equilateral triangle?—Because both sides are equal to the base."

"*The best Fuel for a Christmas Fire.*—Remembrance of all Wrongs—Revenge of all Injuries."

"*Comfort for Farmers and Others.*—Whatever may be the effect of Free Trade on the price of corn, it certainly will not prevent the people at large from kneading bread."

"*Ecclesiastical Information.*—Candles were first introduced into churches in the day time during the dark ages."

"*Question for Naturalists.*—Why is the pelican like Mr. Hobbs?—Because he is celebrated for picking his chest."

Of about the same calibre are the following set of definitions:—

"*Liberty.*—An angel till we gain her, and a woman afterwards."

"*Dogma by G. D.D.*—Old Port, with a crust, is meat and drink."

"*Gambler.*—A rogue amongst fools, and a fool amongst rogues."

"*Reformer.*—A person known first, as a 'Visionary'; then, as a 'Quack'; then, as a 'Benefactor.'"

"*Chivalry.*—The *aurora borealis* of the dark ages."

"*The Emblem of Foolhardiness.*—Chesp's head and pluck."

"*America.*—A spirited lad who beat his big brother for bullying him, but who will join him as partner in business when they both become men."

The verse is somewhat plentiful in this year's almanac; but it is of no very high quality. The following lines have at least the merit of being "in season."

L'Envoiy.

Fades on the hearth the last faint ember;

Hark! 'tis the death-watch ticking clear!

O'er the grey ashes Nurse December

Dozes beside the dying year:

While strangely on the winter air

Sound health and song from nigh at hand,

Where they are toasting the Old Year's heir,

That soon will come into his land.

The old dies out, the new comes in;

So runs the world since it began.

Time blunts grief's teeth in closest kin—

'Tis with the year as with the man;

The New Year turns to scant account

The lessons that the Old Year taught;

Stored wit and wealth, whate'er the amount,

In heirs' loose hands soon come to naught.

But a great purpose worketh still

In spending, as in saving, seen;

It is the glacier feeds the rill

Which makes the valley glad and green:

Then let the Old Year's corn grow cold;

Close up his eyes and veil his face,

And welcome in the New Year bold,

That steps into his father's place.

The Educational Almanac, compiled by the Rev. G. H. Farr, concerns itself chiefly, as its name will suggest, with practical information about teachers, training-schools, and education tables, extracts and statistical matter of interest to persons engaged in the actual business of tuition.

To this enumeration of almanacs we must add, a little elegant trifle intended, we suppose, for a lady's dressing-table or boudoir. It is called the *Perfumed Almanac*:—and is, a small calendar printed on light-coloured silk, with a narrow edging of what seems to be white stamped paper,—the silk strained over cards which inclose some species of scent.

The Bolton Almanac and Year-Book of Local and General Information, we do not remember to have seen before. It is a cheap and careful compilation, especially in matters of local interest. We are glad to see the rise and success of intelligent local manuals like this, for the works which they displace are generally of a trashy or pernicious kind. Works such as the *Bolton Almanac*, undertaken with honest purpose and executed with literary conscientiousness, place information of the most useful and durable kind within daily reach of the poorer and more ignorant classes. Almanac literature has been a great evil in England: but in spite of the continued existence of some of its worst specimens, the circulation of local works of good character would go far to supersede them in a few years.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Kossuth in England: his Progress and Speeches. With a Biographical Sketch, an Account of his Interviews with the Public Deputations, and a Poetical Farewell from Old England.—The reports of M. Kossuth's speeches in England seem to have been collected with some care from the newspapers by the compiler of this pamphlet,—who has also sup-

plied notes, comments, summaries, and elucidations of his own. It is matter of regret that all the speeches are not given—and at their full length. What is wanted, is—not the version which a particular newspaper thought proper for its own purposes to give—but as faithful a report as can now be recovered from the collation of all by a person of intelligence and taste:—and that, the present Editor with more time might have supplied. The speeches of M. Kossuth constitute a sort of interrupted monologue, or rather oratorical series, like the Philippics and the Verrine Orations. The literary artist feels that something is lost to the whole if any one be omitted.—For example, the few words spoken at the landing in Southampton are not given in this new collection.

Miss Martineau and her Master. By J. Stevenson Bushnan, M.D.—This little *jeu d'esprit* has lain on our table some time; and we have taken it up occasionally with the idea of saying something about it, but have always put it down again after reading some pages. The title is taking,—and a very amusing and instructive book might have been written on the subject. But Dr. Bushnan's can hardly claim to be either; and there is at times a certain roughness of manner in it which detracts altogether from the effect of the more serious rebuke intended by its author to be administered to the lady. In parts it is undoubtedly clever,—the philosophy may be sound and the learning accurate; but the attempts at wit and satire fail. Altogether, we cannot but regard it as a good idea imperfectly realized.

Geography for Elementary Schools. First Course. By Edward Hughes.—This is another of those useful manuals for which the cause of education owes so much to Mr. Hughes. It is intended to meet the difficulty of teaching geography intellectually to the young—a difficulty which Mr. Hughes considers to reside less in the subject than in the manner of treating it;—and contains the substance of lessons which in actual experience have been found interesting to children.

Land Drainage, Embankment, and Irrigation: their practical Application, Cost, probable Profit, and the proper Season for such Undertakings. By James Donald.—A little treatise, clear in matter and methodical in arrangement, on the theory and practice of draining and irrigation. We can express no opinion on the points at issue between professed drainers,—but we can say that they appear to be stated with fairness by Mr. Donald. His book can hardly fail to be useful to persons engaged in agriculture.

Among the books which may be conveniently disposed of in a single paragraph we find on our table—*Philip Doddridge, his Life and Labours*, a centenary rhapsody by Mr. John Stoughton,—*The Triple Crown; or, the Power, Course and Doom of the Papacy*, from the pen of Dr. Urwick, and in the most trenchant spirit of the Irish partisan press,—four thick volumes entitled *Spiritual Exposition of the Apocalypse*, written by the Rev. Augustus Clissold, a professed expounder of the views and method of Emanuel Swedenborg,—the third part of Mr. James Elliott's *Elementary Course of Practical Mathematics*,—*The English Bee Keeper*, a series of suggestions, made by an experienced country curate, on the practical management of amateur and cottage apiaries based on scientific principles,—Mr. Scrivenor's *Railways of the United Kingdom statistically considered*, a work of value to persons engaged in railway speculations or railway management,—an essay by Mr. Charles Atherton, of the Devonport dockyard, *On Marine Engine Construction and Classification*, undertaken with a view to promote the greater efficacy of the steam fleet service, both commercial and national,—a *First Class-book on Astronomy*, the object of which seems to be the illustration and advertisement of certain pieces of lecture-room apparatus,—an interesting *Manual of Electro-Metallurgy*, by Mr. James Napier, including the application of the art to processes of manufacture,—a little volume by Mr. G. B. Moore on *The Principles of Colour applied to Decorative Art*, in which the writer, assuming from the success of the interior decoration of the Crystal Palace that Englishmen will now cease to deaden their interiors with the heavy

colours so long in use, treats the subject from a scientific point of view,—*Directions for testing Cane-juice*, by Dr. Shier, purporting to explain the exact quantity of quick-lime required to temper a given quantity of cane-juice, and giving practical instructions for conducting the process of clarification,—and *Coleba's Laws and Practice of Whist*.—Dr. Kitto's *Daily Bible Illustrations*, a series of readings in sacred history, biography, geography, and antiquities,—*Ezekiel and the Book of his Prophecy*, by the Rev. Patrick Fairbairn,—Dr. Hawthorne's *Doctrine of the Trinity not a Doctrine of Divine Origin*,—Dr. Cumming's *Forehadsons, or Lectures on our Lord's Miracle as Earnests of the Age to come*,—Dr. Isaac Da Costa's *The Four Witnesses*,—and Mr. Baillie Roe's *Analytical Arrangement of the Holy Scriptures* are works which we cannot—while *The Mercantile Navy List—Aphorisms of Napoleon—Oxford University Statutes—*and *Assurance and Annuity Tables* are works which we need not—discuss in the columns of the *Athenæum*.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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THE ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

A circumstance of considerable importance with reference to the fate of Sir John Franklin and his companions has been disclosed by Capt. Penny. He states that, when lately at Peterhead, he was informed by Capt. Martin, who commanded the whaling ship *Enterprise* in 1845, that he was the last person who communicated with Sir John. According to his statement, the *Enterprise* was alongside the *Erebus* in Melville Bay ; and Sir John—who seems, unlike Capt. Austin, to have thought that his rank would sustain itself, and his dignity suffer no derogation by association—with a brave whaling captain—invited Capt. Martin to dine with him. This invitation Capt. Martin declined, as the wind was fair to go south. Sir John, while conversing with Capt. Martin, told him that he had five years' provisions, which he could make last for seven ; and that his people were busily engaged in salting down birds,—of which they had several casks full already, and twelve men were out shooting more.

Capt. Penny asked Capt. Martin why he had not mentioned this circumstance before? The latter stated that he did not at first think it of any importance,—and that when Lady Franklin was at Peterhead about two years ago, he did not like to intrude on her. Capt. Penny adds, that Capt. Martin is a man of the strictest integrity,—on whose word he can most fully rely.

Notwithstanding this guarantee, we cannot unhesitatingly accept, without further inquiries, all Capt. Martin's statements. We do not doubt his having communicated with Sir John Franklin at a later date than the 26th of July 1845, when he was seen by Capt. Dannett of the Prince of Wales whaler in Melville Bay. He was then waiting for an opening to push towards Lancaster Sound; and as a lead might present itself at a moment's notice, we can scarcely think that he would incur the risk of delay by sending out shooting parties. Nor do we think it likely that Sir John Franklin could have stated that he was provisioned for five years, when, as is well known, his provisions were only calculated to last three years on the ordinary allowance. Lieut. Griffith, who had the command of the store ship from which they were supplied, says:—"We left them with every species of provisions for *three entire years*, independently of five bullocks which they were coldumputing, the weather not being sufficiently cold to keep or freeze them, as was originally intended."⁴ It is, of course, probable that Sir John Franklin, with his customary care and forethought, husbanded his resources,—and *that* at so early a period, that they lasted for four or it may be five years; but we do not think he could have hoped that they would hold out for seven.—It is only on the score of memory as to details that we have the slightest intention of impeaching Capt. Martin's statement. Some such communication with Sir John Franklin, implying the expansive nature of the latter's provisions and his forethought in husbanning them, doubtless took place. Capt. Martin is to be excused for not having mentioned so important a circumstance as he has now divulged at first; but we consider that he is to blame for remaining silent during so many years and in view of all that has been passing,—particularly as he appears to have been residing in Scotland.

In our late review of the Arctic Searching Expeditions we omitted to state a fact which renders the history of those Expeditions even more distressing than we represented. It appears, that neither Capt. Austin nor Capt. Penny, nor any of their officers, were aware that Sir John Franklin proposed depositing his communications, not in or under cairns, but about ten feet from them, in a

† Conceiving that it would be interesting to know the exact quantity of provisions supplied to the Erebus and Terror, we obtained the following returns from the Admiralty.—Preserved meat, in tin canisters, 32,018 lb.; soup, *pints*, 17,416; gravy, *pints*, 3,176; vegetables, 8,676 lb. potatoes, 2,632 lb.

direction indicated by a finger-post to be erected on the cairn. Thus, while the cairn on Beechey Island was searched, the ground around it was not examined at the requisite depth;—and it is therefore highly probable that despatches are at this moment lying in the cache pointed out by the finger-post.

But even the cairns themselves were not sufficiently examined. Capt. Austin, in his evidence before the Committee, states:—"We went to a cairn, took it down, and examined it to a certain extent, —but not in the way we were satisfied it should be examined." This confession is most extraordinary; and had Capt. Austin stood before an open tribunal, the question must have been put:—Why did you not, as Commander of the Expedition, carry your official instructions into effect, which directed you to examine diligently all places likely to afford trace or record of the missing Expedition? But the Committee of naval officers heard their brother officer's strange and jauntly admission of neglect without any remark, —and passed on to other matters.

Thus, were it only for the purpose of searching the vicinity of the cairn on Beechey Island another Expedition would be imperatively demanded. It is quite possible that a memorandum will be there found which will give us the certain route of the missing ships. That some document will be discovered we confidently believe:—the existence of the cairn itself being strong testimony in favour of this conclusion.

Later intelligence from Behring's Straits puts us in possession of a melancholy fact respecting an officer of the *Enterprise* searching ship.

Lieut. Barnard and Mr. E. Adams, assistant surgeon, had been left at Michaelowski, the Russian trading port in Norton Sound, in October 1850, for the purpose of collecting information of the missing Expedition from the Russian posts and from the natives inland. In pursuance of this object, Lieut. Barnard with an interpreter had gone early in January to a distant post, — intending to communicate, if possible, with some of the neighbouring chiefs. During the night the post was surrounded by a large body of Ko-yu-kuk Indians; several of whom at daybreak entered the principal dwelling and killed the Russian governor. Lieut. Barnard and the interpreter, who were in the same house, made such resistance as drove the Indians out of the house. The latter then laid siege to the post, — sheltering themselves behind wooden shields, stuck upright in the snow; but one of the party being soon afterwards shot, the whole retired to an Esquimaux village at some distance, — where they committed great cruelties, killing upwards of sixty natives, including women and children. Lieut. Barnard died of his wounds on the afternoon of the day following the attack.

Mr. Adams, on hearing of the event at Michaelowski, proceeded with a number of Russians to the distant post; where he found the body of his late companion.

The death of Mr. Whitehead, of the Enterprise, clerk in charge, is also reported. He died while the ship was on her passage from Hong Kong to Port Clarence.

The season is stated to have been late for those seas. The ice floating about till the end of July has caused many disasters :—no less than eleven or twelve vessels having been lost, but not many lives.

Among the ships endangered by being "beset" were the Enterprise and Dædalus near St. Lawrence Island. The line of ice in the Arctic Sea has been found in a lower latitude than in the two preceding years.

There is no account of the Investigator:— which confirms our impression that she has entered the ice.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.

THOUGH this is not the season of the year when the Zoological Gardens present the full circle of their attraction,—a quick walk round them on a frosty morning will, at least, show the visitor that the cold weather does not impede the activity of the secretary, nor prevent the arrival of new creatures. As the increase of the number of persons visiting

the gardens, so has been the increased ability of the Society to add to the number of their animals, &c.—the receipts in Regent's Park are made to re-act on the deserts of Africa and the forests of America, and to draw from their hiding-places the wild beasts of the earth.

Since we last noticed the gardens, many additions and some alterations have been made. Amongst the most noteworthy of the creatures that have lately arrived is the Apteryx, or Kiwi. This bird is a native of New Zealand,—and interesting as being almost the last of that group of wingless birds which seem in former times to have overpread that island. Of the living history of the great mass of the species of these birds we know nothing. Of one genus, the *Notornis*, Mr. Mantell seems to have captured the last of its race. The Apteryx is also fast disappearing under the influence of civilization, and, like the Dodo, bids fair to leave nothing but its head and claws behind. Hence, the interest which, as we have said, attaches to the safe arrival of a living specimen in this country. There are three species of this genus known. They are all strictly nocturnal in their habits; and, in consequence of this, it has been thought desirable to prevent the present specimen from being disturbed by visits during the day. It is utterly incapable of flight,—having merely rudimentary wings. It has very diminutive eyes,—and during the day very imperfect vision. Its legs are so far back, that when standing in any other than the erect position it is obliged to have recourse for additional support to its beak,—on which it rests. This part has been hardened towards its point for that purpose. The feathers of this bird are very peculiar in appearance; and combine with its almost globular body when in a state of repose to give it a very strange appearance,—presenting few of the characteristics that distinguish the other classes of animals. The safe arrival of this curious bird is a subject for congratulation in another point of view,—as it affords further proof that animals which had been supposed to be perfectly incapable of restraint and transport may yet be added to our living collections. We may now hope ere long to chronicle the arrival of the Ornithorhynchus and the Echidna,—of cages of humming birds,—and of the dolphin and the whale. —For this very valuable addition to the ornithological treasures of the gardens the Society is indebted to Lieut.-Governor Eyre. A great number of other animals have been added, to a variety of classes:—they include twenty-two species of mammalia, thirty of birds, and twelve of reptiles. Amongst the mammalia are a pair of magnificent tigers, presented by his Highness the Guicowar of Baroda,—who exercises great power in Western India. It is to be hoped that the sovereigns of other parts of India may follow this excellent example. The collection of monkeys has been greatly extended by recent additions. Mr. Alderman Finnis has presented a Syrian bear,—and with this addition the collection of the species of bear in these gardens is one of the largest ever made.

The additions to the reptile department include several species not before possessed by the Society. Amongst others, there is a specimen of the yellow snake (*Chilabothrus inornatus*), from Jamaica,—which has produced young since it has been in the gardens. Two Iguanas—one from Cuba, the other from Cartagena—have been added. These creatures are a source of interest as bearing so close a resemblance in everything but size to the gigantic fossil Iguanodon:—the presence of whose bones in large quantities in our island attests that it was once not a curiosity shut up in a garden, like its degenerate representative, but a native of our forests and of the banks of our streams. Amongst the expected arrivals in the reptile-house was a magnificent specimen of the Anaconda (*Eunectes murinus*), forwarded, by Mr. Strutt, Stipendiary Magistrate at Berbice. This creature—which measured above twelve feet in length, and would have been one of the largest serpents in the collection—unfortunately died in its passage to this country. It was in the same ship with the Boa which, arriving in good health and great appetite, mistook its blanket for a rabbit. The creature disgorged its blanket on the 8th of November,—and has since taken but one wholesome meal. It is

evidently in delicate health,—suffering from the effects of its injudicious repast.

The additions of which we have spoken are independent of the purchases made by the Society at the sale of the collection of the late Earl of Derby. It is much to be regretted that this unrivalled collection of animals has been permitted to be scattered. We cannot, however, blame the Zoological Society:—for they had not the funds to purchase nor the space to keep the herds of beautiful antelopes and other ruminants which it had been the pride of Lord Derby's life to procure and rear. But Government might have assisted them in this matter,—rather than allow a collection which a nobleman could make and maintain with his private fortune to come to the hammer of the auctioneer. The Society has, however, done what it could; and it is fortunate for the science of Great Britain that Lord Derby's collection was swept from the acres of Knowsley at a season when of all others the Council was best able to spare funds. The following list of animals purchased at Knowsley will show what important additions have been made to both mammalia and birds.

Species.	Native Country.	Place of Exhibition.
ANTELOPES.		
5 Elands (bequested) ..	S. Africa	Giraffe House, W.
2 Leucoryx	W. Africa & Egypt	Sheds near Giraffe
1 Sing-Sing	W. Africa	" [House
1 Hartbeest	S. Africa	" [House
2 Bonte-Boks	S. Africa	" [House
3 Korrine Gazelles	W. Africa	" [House
2 Four-horned Antelopes ..	India	Ostrich House
1 Duiker-Bok	S. Africa	" [House
CATTLE.		
1 Danta Bull	W. Africa	Near Wapiti House
DEER, &c.		
1 Barasingha	N. India	Wapiti House
1 Moluccan Deer	Indian Archipelago	Near Museum
1 Burchell's Zebra	S. Africa	Wapiti House
1 Cape Hyrax	S. Africa	Small Quadrangle
1 Squirrel	S. America	" [House
RAPACIOUS BIRDS.		
1 Cincereous Vulture	S. America	Eagle Aviary
2 Bitter Aquilinas	S. America	Old Aviary
1 Milvaz Chimango	S. America	Small Aviary
1 Vulturine Eagle	S. Africa	Eagle Aviary
1 Martial Eagle	"	"
1 Crowded Eagle	"	"
1 Bateleur Eagle	"	"
1 Black Kite	W. Africa	Parrot House Inclo-
1 Cape Owl	S. Africa	Bison House [Isure
1 Spotted-eared Owl	"	"
INSESSORIAL BIRDS.		
1 White Chatterer	S. America	Small Aviary
1 Malabar Grackle	India	"
1 Contra Grackle	S. Africa	"
1 Whistling Bird	S. Africa	"
1 Blue Grosbeak	S. America	"
1 Chilian Finch	Chili	"
1 Dica	"	"
RASORIAL BIRDS.		
1 Prince Albert's Curassow ..	S. America	New Aviary
1 Purple Guan	"	"
1 Californian Quail	California	"
1 Tatuapa Tinamoo	S. America	"
1 Rufescent Tinamoo	Chili	"
1 Chilian Tinamoo	S. Africa	"
1 Claperton's Francolin	India	"
1 Cape Francolin	India	"
1 Chukar Partridge	India	Old Aviary
1 Abyssinian Pintado	Abyssinia	"
GRALLATORIAL BIRDS.		
1 Port Essington Rail	N. Australia	New Aviary
1 Wattled Crane	S. Africa	"
1 Sacred Ibis	W. Africa	"
1 Bald Ibis	India	"
1 Chilian Ibis	Chili	"
1 Hooded Plover	W. Africa	"
1 Spur-winged Plover	"	"
NATATORIAL BIRDS.		
1 Black-necked Swans	Chili	Camel House Lawn
1 Mountain Casarca	S. Africa	Aviary Lawn
1 Royal Sarkidiformis	W. Africa	"
1 Magellanic Goose	S. America	"
1 Treduck	India	Old Aviary
1 Hybrid Duck	Knowsley	"
1 Bahama Ducks	W. Indies	Parrot House Pond
1 Chilian Duck	Chili	"
1 Indian Duck	India	"
1 Crimston-Bill Ducks	S. Africa	Island Pond
1 Gull-bill	"	"
1 Smee Ende	"	"

In order to locate such large accessions, additional accommodation has been demanded. Thus, additions have been made to the carnivora houses, and to the giraffe house. The animals arranged in the latter occupy not less than two hundred and five feet. We feel that this is a point of vital importance to the Society. Overcrowded cages and dens, like overcrowded cities, engender disease. To be penny wise in this matter is to be pound foolish. Many of the houses in the Gardens give unmistakable symptoms of being too small for their inhabitants. Take for example the monkey-house, the small carnivora-house, the parrot-house, as well as the dens of the larger carnivora. The

noble lions and tigers are mewed up in spaces utterly inadequate to secure the perfect health and beauty of these superb creatures.

Our readers will perhaps be surprised to hear that the house which contained Mr. Gould's humming birds is doomed to destruction, if it is not already razed to the ground. The Society rents its land from the Woods and Forests; and in the particular locality in which this house was situated no permanent building is allowed to be erected. No solicitation could induce the Commissioners to give way, although it was known that the Royal President had exerted himself in favour of this collection and its house. We are glad, however, to be able to add, that the public will not be immediately deprived of the sight of these beautiful little creatures; as Mr. Gould has placed them for twelve months longer at the disposal of the Society,—and, with upwards of a hundred new species, they will be exhibited again in another part of the Gardens.

The number of visitors to the Gardens during the whole of the past year cannot, we fancy, have fallen far short of one million.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Leicester Square is and has been a centre of many attractions. Education has there set up more than one of her temples,—history placed there one of her interesting monuments,—the arts and sciences are there erecting for themselves a home. Among these various pretensions, let us say one word in honour of the humanities that conceal themselves in the same locality within the prosaic brick walls of the Soup Kitchen. At this season of kindly and clement sentiment and cold and inclement weather, it is pleasant to find that the poor are not forgotten by their wealthier neighbours,—that the charities which belong of ancient right to the time and its associations are not of those which Sheridan described as beginning at home and never stirring abroad. It is worth a record here that on Christmas Day—that day of feasting wherever men can feast—largess was given out from the Leicester Square Soup Kitchen to ten thousand poor families who must otherwise have had no share in the festive spirit of the time. The gift would be all the more welcome that it took the orthodox Christmas features. It included the canonical Roast Beef and Plum Pudding,—with an addition of tea, coffee, sugar and other good things. Fancy ten thousand homes made happier, some gleams of generous emotion and thought befitting the benignant season thrown across forty or fifty thousand of the saddest hearts in this imperial city! The physical gain is understood at once. The very names of the time-honoured viands suggest the appetite (ten thousand power) and its satisfaction. But the material feast—in its suggestion of avowed brotherhood—is seasoned with moral condiments far more precious than itself. We mention this because, on the whole, society—though it has not forgotten, and we hope never will forget—the benevolent spirit which has long characterized “merrie Engleland” at this most genial of Christian festivals—is not always as ready as it might be to remember that when—

In rich men's halls the fire is piled,
And ermine robes keep out the weather—
In poor men's huts the fire is low,
Through broken panes the keen winds blow,
And old and young are cold together.

We hope to see the example of the Leicester Square “Kitchen” taken up by all the parishes of London; so that out of the free offerings of competence the hearts of the poor and deserving may be made glad for at least one day in the dreary winter time. That there is sufficient humane feeling in the metropolis we have no doubt—these needs only a little organization in the several districts. New Year's Day has yet to come:—and that, too, is from time immemorial a common festival, at which many and many a hungry parent and child must be absent unless their brother will pay for them.

Mr. Harry Luttrell, “a wit among lords and a lord among wits,” died at his house in Brompton Crescent on the 19th inst., in the eighty-first year of his age. He was the friend of Sydney Smith and of Mr. Rogers, and the wit who set the table

in a roar at Holland House when Whig supremacy in the patronage of letters was rather laughed at in political circles. Like many other men of reputation for happy sayings,—his printed performances do little justice to the talents which he himself possessed. Yet there are wit and remarkable ease, in a tripping style of versification, in his 'Letters to Julia.'

The second portion of the library of the late Mr. Edward Drummond Hay, sold during the present week by Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson, contained the presentation copy to Henry Prince of Wales of 'The World's Hydrographical Description,' a rare little volume by John Davis, whose name is known to every schoolboy from the straits which bear his name. The arms of Prince Henry are on the vellum covers; and to add to the attraction of the volume, a folio sheet is inserted, in the autograph of the author, containing 'Motives, addressed to Prince Henry, for ordering a project for the discovery of the North Pole terrestrial, the Straits of Anian, into the South Seas and Coasts thereof.'—"All those kingdoms [he says] are most complete, glorious, and do best flourish, in abundance, whereunto trade and traffique is performed." After reciting the "motives," he proceeds to project a joint-stock company, the "Adventurers in which are to be selected; of Noble Birth descended; Grette in High Offices; and worthy descending; of at the least of Two Thousand Pounds yearly Revenue," with Privileges at the discrete wisdom of the High Person paramount, Henrie Prince of Wales,—to whom he observes, "in love and dutie, I have left with Mr. Wright in your Highnesses librarie att St. James' a hand globe terrestrial, for demonstration of these." No date is attached; but it may be inferred that "the motives" were of some force in inducing the Prince to frame on the 5th of April, 1612, the Orders and Instructions for the Voyage undertaken by Sir Thomas Button, the result of which he unfortunately did not live to see. It deserves to be mentioned, that Davis expresses a strong wish that King James should institute some order of civil merit,—so early was this distinction coveted by men of merit like John Davis. The volume was bought by the American agent, Mr. Stevens, for 21l.

The New York papers announce as "a literary event" of moment the twelve days' sale of "the celebrated Jarvis library." The collection consists, it is said, of ten thousand volumes; which the late Mr. Rodd would have called, aptly enough, "a handful of books,"—but our American brethren are somewhat surprised at its extent,—as we must own we ourselves are at the expression of such surprise, for a library of ten thousand volumes is rather a common sight in this country. The collection contains about five hundred volumes with the book-plate, and occasionally the name, of Gibbon the historian inscribed on a fly-leaf in his own handwriting. The library of Gibbon was, if we remember rightly, sold in this country by Mr. Evans; but we were not aware that so large a portion of that library as five hundred volumes had been secured by any one person and kept intact. Some of Gibbon's books would realize larger prices in England than they brought on the former occasion,—and even then they were thought to sell beyond their intrinsic value.

The Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's have, it is said, refused to hear any further application or remonstrance on the subject of throwing open the inclosure at the west front of their Cathedral until measures shall have been taken by the City to enlarge the approaches.

On the subject of the Nineveh Discoveries "A visitor to the British Museum and constant reader of the *Athenæum*" writes to us as follows.—"It appears somewhat remarkable that the interesting remains of Assyrian sculpture now in the British Museum have not suggested to some of your antiquarian readers the formation of a Society for carrying on more extensively the excavations at Nineveh hitherto so successfully conducted by Mr. Layard. A Society on the principle of the Archaeological or other institution of the kind might be

formed, with an annual subscription of two guineas from each member,—the funds so raised to be applied in the manner stated. All relics worth transporting to this country to be sent to the British Museum on condition that the Trustees become subscribers to a certain extent; and the Society to publish, and present to each subscriber, a description of the objects of antiquity discovered,—with drawings illustrative of the same. A scheme like this seems to me perfectly feasible; and I have no doubt it would be patronized by all lovers of antiquarian research,—as well as by members of religious and other Societies. It would obviate the necessity of applications to Government for grants of money, and be the means of further elucidating many subjects of interest connected with Biblical and early history."

Prince Albert, we are informed, has consented to assume the Patronage of the Royal Polytechnic Institution:—and under the protection of no other honorary name could its interests be so appropriately placed.

The Cambridge dons are about as slow as its under-graduates are fast. Thirty-three months ago, under strong pressure from without, a Syndicate was named to consider and revise the statutes of the University:—the Syndics have at last made their report! The new reform—the self-reform of which their friends boasted so loudly—is announced, and we are mistaken if it will satisfy any class of men in this country except its authors. It leaves untouched all the old radical abuses. It says not a word about tests and subscriptions—about the exclusion of Dissenters and others—about the character of the studies pursued in the University, or a better regulation for the distribution of collegiate honours—about the exaction of money from the students for imaginary residence, and fees on account of tuition which is notoriously not given—about the relation of the separate colleges to the University. These reforms are left for bolder minds to undertake. Such changes as are really made are for the better, no doubt,—but the very spirit of timidity seems to have presided over them. The first change on the list refers to Residence—and it reduces the terms from ten to nine—strikes about two months from the three and a half years. Here a sweeping measure was, and is, required. The degree is given as the seal of scholarship: that is its pretension before the world, and should be its meaning at Cambridge. But by present rules it is given as the seal of so many dinners and so much sleep. Many men are ready for a University examination when they go to college,—others could prepare themselves in a few months. What reason is there for not passing such men when they are ready? Why should the ripe mind be kept back for a fixed period at all? With respect to the latitude with which it has been customary hitherto to interpret the statutes when granting titular, mandate, and honorary degrees, the Syndics have resolved to define a little more strictly and narrowly the meaning of the word "nobleman." In future, degrees will be granted as a matter of course, and in virtue of "their nobility," only "to actual dukes, marquises, earls, viscounts, and barons, to their sons, and to those who in due course will become noblemen." Surely, however, this ancient usage—conceived in the spirit of a time long gone by—might be abolished altogether:—and were the University degree made really to represent something beyond the fact of so much mutton consumed,—were it a real scholastic and literary distinction,—the men in whose favour it is now supposed to act would probably be the first to seek its suppression. Many young noblemen would spurn a regulation which supposed—and supposes—them incapable of winning honours in open competition.

Mr. Henry Lawton of Bath has made a proposal to the people of Nottingham with a view to the establishment of a midland observatory in that town. On condition that the town council or any other local body will provide a house and garden and secure a salary of 200l. a-year for a resident astronomer, he offers to transfer to trustees appointed on their behalf the whole of his valuable collection of astronomical, optical, and meteorological apparatus. The collection, it is said, cost

its munificent owner upwards of 10,000l. The town council refrains from voting the requisite funds on the ground that such a vote is not within its functions. But a public subscription is on foot for the object,—and it is expected that enough money will be raised by this means to secure so important an acquisition for the town. Mr. Lawton himself has offered a thousand guineas towards this fund.

Lines of steam ships will soon traverse all the great oceans of the earth. The German Ocean was scarcely bridged by steam before men began to speculate on the possibility of a similar feat on the Atlantic. That accomplished,—the Indian Ocean next occupied attention. Presto!—and Plymouth, Lisbon, Liberia, the Cape, Bengal and Sydney are joined together. There now remains only the wide waste of the Pacific:—and we understand that Government is already seriously engaged in preparations for future experiments in the steam navigation of that, the largest ocean in the world. Two vessels, the *Harold* and the *Arrow*, are under equipment as an expedition to the Southern Pacific—their object being a search in that region for coal stations and an appropriate place for a new penal settlement. Capt. Denham, it is said, will command this expedition.

A descriptive Catalogue Raisonné of the late Cardinal Mezzofanti's Library has, we are informed, been just published in Rome. It is in Latin, divided into forty-five sections,—and embracing works written in upwards of four hundred different languages, idioms, or dialects.

English readers seldom fail to hear of the suppressions, restrictions, or persecutions of the press in France and in Germany:—similar events in Spain are seldom referred to in our newspapers:—Madrid being further off and its journals less known than those of Paris and Berlin. It would be a mistake, however, to suppose that because the war of that government on opinion is not recorded here, it is not made. A Madrid journal, the *Epoca*, gives its readers a summary of the prosecutions instituted against the press of the capital by the present cabinet,—the men who ousted Narvaez, and make a pretence of a sort of liberal principles. According to this authority, the *Europa* has been suppressed and fined 30,000 reals; the *Mundo Nuevo*, the *Murga*, and the *Tribuna del Pueblo* have been repeatedly seized, fined, and have ceased to appear; the *Nacion* has been seized eleven times, fined 20,000 reals, and has an editor in prison; the *Heraldo* has been seized ten times, is printed under the surveillance of the police, and has one of its editors in prison; the *Constitucional* has been seized three times, and fined 20,000 reals; the *Epoca* itself has been seized seven times; the *Observador*, the *Catolico*, and the *Novedades* have also been seized several times. Yet these ministers have not yet completed their first year of power!—For the present, France and Austria may be considered as not having a press:—with this slight difference between the two countries, that while the dominant power in Paris is described as being anxious to buy, cajole, or compel support from the few papers that remain, the men who rule in Vienna profess to despise the "fourth estate" altogether. An amusing instance of this occurred a few days ago. The *Soldaten Freund*, a journal circulating chiefly in the lower ranks of the army, gave one morning a rapturous account of the Emperor's reception by the people during his recent visit to Galicia. A messenger arrived during the day to summon the editor to the residence of the Commandant-general. He ran off, expecting thanks—perhaps more substantial rewards—for his eloquent loyalty; but, to his astonishment, the general gave him a severe reprimand for meddling with such high matters. "The Emperor," he said, "does not need to have his acts praised by writers in newspapers."

We throw into a single paragraph a few miscellaneous notes on London improvements. The drainage of the Regent's Park, commenced in the early part of the winter, is progressing satisfactorily.—The report of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests just published states that the Commissioners have sold a piece of ground from Charlotte Street to Long Acre as a site for baths and washhouses for

St. Giles's and St. George's parishes. The parishes have paid 2,650*l.* for the site.—A sum of 30,000*l.* has been appropriated by the Commissioners towards the expense of forming and completing a line of street between Southwark and Westminster Bridge.—The Commissioners have lent 30,000*l.* to the Westminster Improvement Commissioners to enable them to complete and open the new street from Westminster Abbey to Pimlico.—The property purchased by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests to enable them to open a new street from the London Docks to Spitalfields Church amounted to 108,214*l.*, which has been raised by a duty of 1*d.* per ton on coals imported into the city of London.—The cost of taking down, removing, and reinstating the marble arch has been little short of 11,000*l.*—A company, we notice, has been formed for the purpose of obtaining from Parliament authority to construct a new and commodious bridge over the Thames, connecting Fulham and Putney, in lieu of the present structure, which is dangerous to passengers, insufficient for ordinary traffic, and an unsightly as well as a perilous obstruction to the river navigation. The proposed bridge is to be made of wrought and cast iron, spanning the river with five arches of 133 feet, each arch rising 20 feet above the level at high water.

NOW OPEN.—SKETCHES AND DRAWINGS, at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, 5, Pall Mall East, comprising, amongst other important works, CHOICE SPECIMENS by Turner, R.A., Mulready, R.A., Roberts, R.A., Stanfield, R.A., Webster, R.A., Landseer, R.A., Hart, R.A., Greville, R.A., John Martin, R.A., Copley Fielding, Cattermole, John Lewis, Frith, A.R.A., Ward, A.R.A., Egg, A.R.A., Leitch, Topham, Hunt, Hollman, Lance, Duncan, Hodgson, Godall, &c. Open daily from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1*s.* SAMUEL STEPHEN, Sec.

PANORAMA OF NIMROUD, NINEVEH.—BURFORD'S PANORAMA, Leicester-square.—JUST OPENED the above extraordinary View, including the recent Excavations, the Temple-Palaces and wonderful Relics of Antiquity discovered by A. H. Layard, Esq.; embracing also the Rivers Tigris and Zab, the Chaldean or Nestorian, and the Kurdish Mountains and surrounding scenery of the deepest and most intense interest.—The VIEWS OF NIAGARA, JERUSALEM, and the LAKE OF LUERNER, are also NOW OPEN.—Admission 1*s.* each Circle, or 2*s.* 6*d.* to the three. Schools half-price. Open from 10 till dusk.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—LECTURE by GEORGE BARKER, Esq., on the BALLAD MUSIC OF ENGLAND, commencing with his celebrated entertainment 'AN ENGLISH CHRISTMAS,' every Evening for a fortnight, except Saturday, at Eight o'clock.—**LECTURE** by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on WARD'S NEW SCULPTURE, LAMP.—**LECTURE** by Dr. Haschke on the PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENTIFIC RECREATION.—**NUMEROUS PRIZE MODELS, WORKS OF ART**, &c. from the Great Exhibition will be explained by Mr. Crispie.—**OPTICAL EFFECTS IN DISSOLVING VIEWS, MICROSCOPE, CHROMATOPIC, &c.**—**DIYER and DIVING BELLS**, &c. &c.—Admission, 1*s.*; Schools and Children under ten years of age, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven to Five, and every evening, except Saturday, from seven till half-past Ten.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Dec. 8.—The President, Sir R. I. Murchison, in the chair.—Prof. H. Abich, R. Cust, Esq., H. Bois, Esq., and Lieut. E. M. Leycester, R.N., were elected Fellows.

The papers read were, 'Letter from Capt. W. Penny on the missing Arctic Expedition under the command of Sir John Franklin.' The following are extracts.—'On the 25th of August, 1850, having joined Captain Ommanney on the west side of Wellington Channel, and seen the traces found by him of the missing ships, I considered it my proper course to return to the eastern shore of the channel, with the view of examining those parts more closely than had been done before. The result of my return was most satisfactory; for not until then were the winter quarters of the missing ships discovered, and what is of still more importance in my estimation as regards the route of the missing ships, a watch-tent, set up evidently for watching every move of the ice in Wellington Channel. We also saw the runs of sledges going and returning from making observations upon the channel; and in the tent we found a small piece of paper with the words, 'to be called,' the other part of which must have been torn off,—evidently showing that a regular watch had been kept on the 5th of September, 1850, from the top of Cape Spencer, a height of at least 730 feet. Open water was observed beyond the fixed ice in the channel. The strong easterly gales which we experienced previous to the above date had counter-

acted the prevailing current from the westward, and had driven the ice through Queen Victoria Channel into the Arctic Basin. On the 7th of September a strong northerly gale brought away 15 miles of ice down Wellington Channel, leaving only about 15 miles of ice between the two seas. Having commenced our travelling on the 13th of April, 1851, I came upon water and decayed ice on the 15th of May, in the channel between Cornwallis Land and Bailie Hamilton Island, obliging me to return by the east of the said island; and then to the north we gained Point Island, and then to the north we gained Point Surprise, in lat. 76° 2', long. 95° 55'. The water reached the point at my feet, and extended 25 miles west; the sky indicated water to the north, round Dundas Island. The moment I stood upon Point Surprise, with a full view to the west, I exclaimed, 'Through this channel Sir John Franklin has gone in clear water. Oh! for a boat.' With this conviction on my mind, I returned with the determination to use every exertion to get a boat up to this water. On the 29th of the same month, Messrs. Goodsir and Marshall, advancing with their party along the shore of Cornwallis Land, were forced to return for water, with thirty days' provisions upon their sledges. Again, on the 31st of May, Capt. Stewart having advanced as far as Cape Beecher, by the east side of the channel, and along Albert Land, came to water,—and, from a height of 700 feet, found nothing but open sailing ice as far as the eye could reach to the west and north-west. On the 6th of June, a boat was fully equipped, and a journey commenced for Victoria Channel, some of the party having only returned thirty-four hours from a journey of thirty-one days. On the 17th of the same month, the boat was launched into the water in long. 96° W., and continued to contend for thirty-three days with adverse winds and rapid tides, which brought the drifting ice in such quantities to the eastward as to block up the various channels between the islands, leaving an open sea beyond, seen from the top of Bailie Hamilton's Island. My utmost exertions were so hampered that only 310 miles of island coast were examined by the boat party; but had a strong easterly wind prevailed for only a short time, so as to counteract the effects of the westerly current, what might not have been done with even the small boat! It is my conviction that the tide flows from the north-west in Victoria Channel, although there is a regular rise and fall of four feet; still in mid-channel the current seemed to run the greater part of the twelve hours to the eastward, which, I have no doubt, was greatly influenced by the strong N.W. and W.N.W. winds which prevailed for a whole month, but, amongst islands and narrow channels, one would require longer time for making observations to enable him to speak with certainty on this subject. In Davis's Straits and Baffin's Bay the tide flows from the south; in Lancaster Sound it flows from the east. With the knowledge we have acquired by our late search, who can now doubt the route Sir John Franklin has pursued? A watch sent to observe every move in the Strait, and the evident signs of a hasty departure, amount in my mind to a conviction that he had passed in open water through Wellington Channel and along Prince Albert's Land, which I am strongly of opinion extends 500 miles N.W., and until that distance is reached, no further traces will be discovered.'

'Proposal for a Museum of Mankind,' by G. Catlin, Esq.—His plan had for its object to perpetuate the looks, customs, history, and manufactures of all the declining and vanishing races of man,—and he still believed that his collection would eventually form the basis of such an institution. He agreed with all the world as to the great interest and value of their noble collections of beasts and birds, reptiles, fossils, minerals, fishes, insects, and plants, all of which could be gathered hundreds of years hence, as well as at the present time; and he believed that most of the reasoning world who would give the subject a moment's thought, would agree with him that there was one museum yet to be made, equal, if not transcending in interest and value all others yet designed, and which required

to be made soon or it would be for ever lost—a museum containing the resemblances, manufactures, crania, history, and records of all the remnants of the native races of our fellow-men. He believed that Great Britain had more than thirty colonies in different parts of the globe, in all of which the numbers of civilized men were rapidly increasing, and the native tribes as fast wasting away; that the march of civilization was everywhere, as it was in America, the march of extermination, and that of their own species. For the occupation of a new country the first enemy that must fall was man, and his like could not be replaced from any other part of the globe. Their war was not with the beasts or the birds. The grisly bear, the lion, and the tiger were allowed to live; their weapons were seldom employed against them. They did not give them whiskey and rum, the small-pox, nor the bayonet; they were allowed to live upon their own ground, and yet their skins were of great value and interest in our museums. But to complete a title—man, their fellow-man—the noblest work of God—with thoughts, sentiments, and sympathies like their own—must be struck down and extinguished, dying on his own soil, often unchronicled and unknown, save to the ruthless hands that had slain him, and would bury his history with his body in oblivion, when not even his skin had a place assigned it amongst those of the beasts and birds of his country. To attain his objects, he proposed to fit out a steamer to procure well-selected specimens of the North, South, and Central American races, with which, and the several other parties from the opposite parts of the globe, now to be obtained in England, and the manufactures of those races, and the American-Indian collection, he would consider the museum established; and after a rapid visit to the seaport towns of England, Scotland, and Ireland, he proposed to visit St. Petersburg and other towns on the Baltic, bringing back the natives and their manufactures from the north of Russia and Asia; giving a new interest thereby to the collection on its second visit to the English towns, and to its tour up the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, or to the Atlantic cities of the United States, to whichever its destination might first be fixed. Some other details were given; and he concluded by stating that the extraordinary facilities thus afforded of concentrating together in the most sudden and rapid manner the native races from different parts of the globe, with all their peculiar native looks, their ingenious manufactures and handicraft, easily gathered, and thus enhanced in interest and value, would afford the ethnologist and the physiologist, not only of a town or a city, but of the various cities of the world, the rarest opportunity for the study of native man and his curious works, whilst this little floating community of native tribes would become an Aborigines school, from which the English language, the Christian religion, and the civilized arts would emanate and be carried and taught amongst the heathen races to the remotest quarters of the globe.

'Sketch of the Friendly Islands, with an Account of the Visit of H.M.S., the Meander, Capt. the Hon. H. Keppel, to Tongatabu,' by Mr. O. W. Brierly.—The paper was illustrated by sketches of the arrival of the Royal fleet of double canoes at Tongatabu; view of the entrance to the anchorage at Nukualofa, with her Majesty's ship Meander running through the narrow passage between the islets; portrait of King George, of the Friendly Islands (life size), from a sketch made at a Kara party; portrait of a Feejee chief (life size); view of one of the entrances to the Pah-at-Bea, where Capt. Croker, of her Majesty's ship Favourite, was killed in 1840; an outline chart of Tongatabu, from a French survey at Tahiti; curiosities, models, &c.

GEOLOGICAL.—Dec. 17.—D. Sharpe, Esq., in the chair. F. Hindmarsh, Esq., was elected a Fellow.—The following papers were communicated.—'On the Quader-formation of Germany,' by Dr. H. B. Geinitz. From some late researches in the Hartz, Prof. Geinitz has been enabled to make further additions to his knowledge of the cretaceous rocks of that district, and finds that they may be arranged in the following series:—Upper Chalk,

Lower Chalk, Tourtia, and Neocomian.—'On the causes of the Changes of Climate in different geological periods,' by W. Hopkins, Esq.

ASIATIC.—Dec. 13.—Sir G. T. Staunton in the chair.—R. N. Cust, Esq., T. Ellis, Esq., the Rev. G. Frost, J. W. Pycroft, Esq., the Rev. C. Pritchard, and C. Rieu, Esq., were elected Members.—The Secretary read a paper by T. T. Meadows, Esq., Translator to H.B.M. Consulate in China, descriptive of the execution of thirty-four rebels, or bandits, which took place in Canton, on the 30th of July last. After a description of the place of execution, which was secured by a strongly guarded door,—and after stating that more than 400 human beings have been put to death in the same place within the past eight months,—Mr. Meadows states that he entered the place accompanied by two English residents at Canton, and found there a few of the lower officials. The only preparation for the execution was a cross, fixed up for the infliction of the highest legal punishment practised in China—cutting up alive. There was a fire of fragrant sandal-wood burning before the shed where the Mandarins sit to superintend the executions, in order to conceal the horrid stench arising from the decomposed heads remaining there. After waiting a considerable time, all the criminals were introduced, most of them walking to their places, but many carried in baskets, and tumbled out on the spot appointed for them, where they lay powerless, either from excess of fear or from treatment inflicted during trial and imprisonment. A man stood behind each criminal, and placed him in a kneeling position, with his face towards the ground, holding him in this position by grasping his hands, which were bound behind his back. In case of resistance, which happens very rarely, the criminal's name is held by a second assistant, and dragged forward by force, so as to keep the neck extended. When all the criminals were placed in the required positions, the executioner seized a sabre with both hands, and proceeded to his work. In the present instance, the man was a mild looking soldier selected from the ranks of the army. The sword was a common sabre of three feet in length; and one of those employed on the occasion was laid on the Society's table. It appears that there is no official weapon required; for the officers of the army, anxious to "flesh their swords," send them for the purpose to the executioner, who has thus a sufficient supply for his most extensive operations. The number decapitated on the occasion described was thirty-three; and the executioner took up a fresh sword as soon as he felt the edge of the one employed becoming dull, which was usually the case after cutting off two or three heads. When all was ready, the man stood firm, with his legs somewhat apart. On hearing the word "pen" pronounced by the officer superintending, and after a sharp order to the criminal, "Don't move!" he raised his sword straight up, and brought it rapidly down with the full strength of both arms, giving additional force to the blow by dropping his body perpendicularly to a sitting posture. The horrid task was soon done; after cutting off the head of one victim, the man threw himself, by a bound, into position by the side of the next; and in somewhat less than three minutes, the whole thirty-three were headless,—the head, in every case but the first, being completely severed at one blow. In three or four cases, where the criminals retained their full strength, the bodies, after decapitation, rose quite upright; and Mr. Meadows is satisfied that unless restrained by the man behind they would have sprung into the air. When this part of the tragedy was over, the more terrible work of slow death was carried into effect upon the remaining criminal, who was bound to the cross mentioned above. He was a strongly-built man, apparently forty years old, who had escaped in the first instance, but who had voluntarily surrendered himself to certain death, in order to save from torture his wife and family who had been seized by the Chinese government with the cruel policy usual on such occasions. In this instance, the flesh was cut from the forehead, breast, and extremities of the sufferer with a short knife, which was on the table before the Meeting; the

body was immediately taken from the cross, and the head cut off. The duration of the punishment was about four or five minutes. The bodies were then packed up in coffins and carried away.—In conversation, it was remarked, that the pressing to death, the disgusting details of our capital punishment for treason, and the burning of women only a century ago in our island, must lead us not to be too hasty in condemning the Chinese as utterly barbarous in the punishment now described; which will not bear the smallest comparison with the cruelties exercised on Damien in Paris less than a century ago, which is said to have been witnessed by thousands of spectators, including several ladies of rank.—A more significant proof of a low state of feeling among the Chinese is shown in the fact, that a man came coolly in to dip rushes into the blood of the decapitated criminals, to be used as a medicine; and that, on a former visit the writer had found human bodies lying in the place, with pigs feeding in the pools of blood around, while a woman was affectionately feeding a child within a few yards,—both staring with much interest at the strange foreigner, but utterly regardless of the disgusting exhibition before their eyes!

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Dec. 11.—Capt. W. H. Smyth, V.P. and Director, in the chair.—Sir B. Outram presented a number of rubbings and tracings which the late Dr. Bromett had made in different parts of Italy, especially in Rome. Some were highly curious, and were made from mosaics and stone inscriptions. Among the latter was the slab in the English Chapel at Rome put up to Cardinal Brembridge, Archbishop of York, who was murdered there; but on the stone it was merely said "obit 1514," without the slightest mention of the way in which he came by his death.—A paper was read 'On the Discovery of Roman Remains at Boxmoor.' The fact is new, but the relics themselves offered no novelty. They were obtained chiefly from the bottom of an ancient well, and included coins of Nero.—Mr. Clappell, from a parish in Suffolk, of which his brother is the incumbent, produced a copy of the "solemn league and covenant," as subscribed there in 1643. It was mentioned that two other copies of the same instrument subscribed by parishioners were in existence—one of them at Newhaven, in Sussex.

Dec. 18.—Sir R. H. Inglis, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Campkin laid before the Society a portrait of Abraham Cowley by Faithorne, on the back of which some verses relating to the poet, his patron, and the Duke of Buckingham were written. There was little merit in the lines; but they were accompanied by a letter from Mr. Campkin explanatory of them, and somewhat more disparaging of Cowley's works than was deserved. It was his misfortune not to be superior to the literary vices of his age, especially in early life; and his later and better works are not from their subjects of an attractive character, though Gray knew their value and imitated them.—Some Anglo-Saxon remains were placed upon the table by the Hon. R. C. Neville, lately disinterested by him in Cambridge-shire. They consisted very much of personal ornaments in bronze, but with thick gilding upon many of them, and these had not been at all corroded by the lapse of ten or twelve centuries. They had nearly all been met with in a place of early sepulture at Wilbraham; and two of the objects occasioned a good deal of remark, and obviously required further illustration. They were small wooden buckets, about six inches deep by as many broad, composed of ten or twelve staves each, hooped and mounted in bronze and with a bronze handle over the top: the wood, as had been ascertained by Mr. Brown, keeper of the botanical department of the British Museum, was yew, and it was in a singular state of preservation. Mr. Neville gave it as his opinion, that they had been used as drinking cups, and that they had been buried with the dead as peculiarly dear to the person when living. It was mentioned that a similar, but less perfect, specimen had been presented to the British Museum; but it did not seem that the officers there had been able to throw any light upon its use, or on the reason why it had been placed with the body. Many skeletons had been found

at the same time remarkable for the perfectness of their teeth, even when worn with age; for the entireness of the bones, without injury or fracture; and for the complete development of the skull, as if belonging to a people considerably advanced in civilization.—nevertheless, it was quite certain that all these remains were of a period long anterior to the Norman Conquest. Mr. Neville promised to produce other relics of larger dimensions (and we hope some of the skulls) in the middle of January: they are at present deposited in his museum at Audley End.—An important historical paper by Mr. Roberts was read: it related to the very curious question of the transportation and exportation of perhaps a thousand persons, gentry and labourers, who were engaged in Monmouth's Rebellion. It was most noticeable as containing a strong confirmation of Mr. Hepworth Dixon's discovery, that it was not William Penn, but George Penne, who was disgracefully concerned in extorting money from "the Virgins of Taunton" who worked the colours for the Duke of Monmouth. Mr. Roberts also entered into the history of two persons of the names of Pinney and Coade, who, among eight hundred others, had been carried to the West Indies to work on Sugar Plantations of Jamaica. The first, being a gentleman, was bought off by his brother for £51.—but the last was obliged to serve out the period of his exile. It was mentioned in the room that Mr. Macaulay had himself not long since published Coade's narrative of his life and sufferings. One of the most amusing parts of Mr. Roberts's communication related to the tricks of the courtiers of James the Second and his Queen to obtain assignments of prisoners in order that they might make a profit of them by sale or otherwise. The Queen's favourites, and Mr. George Penne, were peculiarly successful;—and it was the latter who obtained the ransom of Mr. Pinney and some others. It appeared, however, that William Penn had made interest to procure some of the labourers for his new estate, but we do not think that the result of his application was stated. The fact is, that he had twenty or thirty given to him, and they settled in Pennsylvania.

STATISTICAL.—Dec. 15.—Lieut. W. H. Sykes, V.P., in the chair.—The Rev. E. W. Edgell read an abstract of a tabular statement by the Rev. Thomas Bliss 'On the Statistics of Places of Worship in England and Wales.'—Mr. Levi read a paper 'On the Comparative Statistics of the World, and on an International Code of Commerce.' The object was, to suggest means of promoting the extension of knowledge of the resources of countries, bringing to light the nature and properties of physical substances, and the statistics of the quantities produced; and also to facilitate mutual exchanges. It showed the difficulty of obtaining statistical accounts from any number of countries of equal dates, on account of the various modes and terms in which statistics are collected. It detailed the nature of a comprehensive statistical chart which the author had compiled, and purposed should be an annual statement of the statistics of the world, for which he asked the co-operation and countenance of the Society:—the most striking results of which appeared in the following totals:—in finances, Great Britain is 3,000,000. revenue above expenditure; Austria, 7,000,000. expenditure above revenue; France, 2,000,000. expenditure above revenue. The debt of Great Britain stands highest. The total estimated produce of grain of the countries exhibited in the chart was 392,750,000 quarters. From a calculation of the produce and consumption of wheat in Great Britain, there appeared a want of importation of 4,000,000 quarters of grain yearly. The average importation for the last five years was shown to be 3,907,997 quarters; and for the last ten years, 2,891,806 quarters. The production of iron in Great Britain was given at 1,800,000 tons manufactured, out of a total of 3,000,000 tons; and of coals, 38,000,000 tons out of a total of 64,000,000 tons. The total annual value of the precious metals seemed to be about 29,000,000. The total of imports and exports to and from the several countries, 594,650,000; of which, 321,750,000. form the imports and 272,900,000. the exports. Of the

exports of Great Britain, 20 per cent. are sent to America; 11 per cent. to the East Indies; 10 per cent. to the Hanseatic Towns; 5 per cent. to Holland; and $\frac{1}{4}$ to the North American Colonies. The total mercantile marine of the world was shown to be 65,434 vessels, of 9,957,585 tons, of which 34,090, of 1,444,115 tons, belonged to Great Britain, and 3,535,251 to the United States; or in the proportion respectively of 41 and 35 per cent. of the tonnage. The total navigation of merchant vessels consisted of 233,470 vessels, of 46,330,823 tons, of which were entered at various ports 118,871 vessels of 23,569,392 tons, and cleared 114,599 vessels, of 22,761,431 tons. Of this, Great Britain participated in 6,113,696 entered and 5,906,978 tons cleared; and America in 4,328,639 entered, and 4,361,002, tons cleared; or in the proportion respectively of $12\frac{1}{2}$ and $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. There were shown to be open for public traffic 25,398 miles of railway, at a cost of 448,750,000*l.* The relative per-centage per mile in Great Britain was 35,000*l.*; in America, 6,500*l.*; in Germany, 12,000*l.*; in France, 26,000*l.*—Mr. Levi then touched on an international code of commerce, and exhibited the injurious effects of so many systems of Laws; and gave a statistical summary of his work on 'Commercial Law of the World,' in which there are 16,750 articles, comprising the codes and laws of commerce of all mercantile countries. The author having attempted in the work to codify the laws of Great Britain, collected 2,315 articles of commerce, and statute law, and the subject of merchants, partnerships of joint stock companies, principal and agent, contracts, bills of exchange, and insurance,—the law of shipping and bankruptcy being in course of publication.—The author informed the Society of a Convention to be held in Brussels next autumn of the statistics of Europe and America,—and expressed a hope that the Society would send a deputation to promote the better and more uniform mode of collecting statistics, and also an international code of commerce.

PHILOLOGICAL.—Dec. 12.—Prof. Key read a paper 'On the Etymology of certain Latin Words.' Having formerly shown that in the words *very-ere*, *merg-ere*, *terry-ere*, and *sparg-ere*, the *g* was not a part of the ultimate stem, he now showed that *parcere* (compared with our *spare*) and *torque-re*, stood in a similar position. As to *torquere*, the perf. *tor-si*, and part. *tor-tus*; the derivative substantives, *tor-men* (pl. *tormina*), *tor-mentum*, *tor-tor*, *tor-tura*, &c.; the adj. *tor-tivus* and *tor-tivus*; the subst. *tor-culum* (compare *veli-culum* and *fer-culum*); *tor-nus*, a lathe, and *ter-edo*, all implied a simple verb *tor-*, or *ter-*, rather than the fuller *torque-*. The Greek seemed to put the matter beyond doubt, *tor-vo*, a lathe, was admitted to be derived from *τεip-ω*, the primary meaning of which was that of turning; compare *τοp-vvη*, "a stirrer or ladle;" *τοp-μoς*, "the socket on which a door turns," or "a turning post (in a race-course)"; *τοp-ος* "piercing" (from the turning of a centre-bit); *τεp-μα*, "the turning point in the race-course." The Latin *terminus*, and the old neuter "*termen*," were akin to the Greek *τεp-μα*,—both languages possessing the same root. As *r* so readily changes with *l*, *τεl-ος* was no doubt from the base *τεp*: to derive it from *τελεω* was to reverse the stream of etymology; besides, the Homeric future, *τελεσσω*, and the tenses *ε-τελεσ-θην*, and *τε-τελεσ-μαι*, showed that *τελεω* was a corruption of *τελεσ-ω*. With the Latin *torq* of *torqueo*, our verb *thr-ow* was identical: the change of the Latin *t* into our *th* being a law; and of *q* or any guttural into our *ow* being common; both *torqueo* and *throw* shared, too, the double meaning of twisting and hurling—to throw silk and to throw a spear. Other words from the same root were *ter-e-bra* and *ter-e-ρov*, a gimlet; the old subst. *tor-es*=*torques* (Charisius); perhaps *tur-ma*, a troop of cavalry—(the number who wheeled round together); the adj. *tor-vus*; the subst. *tor-us*, primarily "a strand of a rope" (Cato, § 135, Columel. xi. 3), from the notion of twisting, like our own *thread*, Germ. "*draht*," from *dreh-en*, to turn. The very verb *tero* is used of turning in a lathe; and thus we see how little ground scholars have for referring so

many of its children to a Greek parentage. Our verbs *thr-ill* and *drill* have the same root as *throw*, with which *turn* is related, as *morrow* and *morn* are. The Greek *τρεp-ω* shows us the root *τεp*, with a new suffix *ει* (if indeed *ει* do not represent the *q* of *torqueo*, as *ειπομαι* and *εστωρ*),—hence we have *τρυνη*, and the verb *τρυντω*—bore, pierce. Of the forms which disguise themselves by adding an initial *s*, must be mentioned our verb *stir*, the Latin *con-sterna-re*, the primitive meaning of which is "to stir up to violent action," Gr. *σπεp-ω*, and its deriv. *σποp-ος*, whirling, or a top; *σπεp-λος*, twisted. If *terere*, to rub, is related to our root *ter*, yet the notion of turning is claimed as its primary one. He dealt also with the noun *col-our* which is commonly left, without etymological explanation. Comparing it with the Greek *χρωp*, *χρω-ος*, and *χρω-μα*, we find that they both have as meanings, successively, "skin," "colour of the skin or complexion," "colour generally" (see Forcellini's quotations). *Col-*, and *χp-*, it is believed are the same base; the letter-change is one that often occurs, as *καλυπτω*, *κρυπτω*; *celeber*, *creber*; *στυ-λρι*, *σκαλινρι*; *crus*, *σκιδος*, &c. An *s* being so often prefixed, we look to some such word as the Greek *σκυλλειν*, to flay or skin, as the parent verb;—from this, too, come *σκυλος*, a hide; *σκυλοδελος*, a tanner of hides; *κολεος*, a scabbard; *culeus*, a large leathern sack; *cor-ium*, and the adj. *scortus*—*scortum* Varro assures us was used in the old language for "leather," and of this *scortum* is only a variety.—The letter *l* lying between *r* and *n* in the natural series of liquids, was interchangeable with *n* as well as *r*. Hence we have the diminutive *επι-σκυνριον*, the skin about the eyes, or over the brow, and so our word *skin*. The *l* also interchanged with *t*, and *σκυν-ος*, "a skin or hide" is only a dialectic variety of *σκυλ-ος*, and *scutum* and *cutis* also belong to the family. The German *Haut* and our *hide* are the same as *cutis*. As *σκυλον* and *spolium* are identical both in meaning and form, so also the Latin *pellis*, Germ. *pelz*, and our *fell* (in "fellmonger") must be claimed for this same root. It must always be remembered, that where there is identity of meaning, any reasonable letter-change must be allowed in tracing the connexion of words.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Dec. 16.—Sir W. Cubitt, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On the Alluvial Formations, and the Local Changes, of the South-Eastern Coast of England. First Section, from the River Thames to Beachy Head,' by Mr. J. B. Redman. The paper stated, that the passage of shingle along the English coast, due, as was generally believed, to the action of waves alone, took on the south coast a course from west to east, and on the east coast, from north to south; during certain winds the shingle was heaped up coincident with their direction, and repeated withdrawals and renewals (the latter being the most frequent), caused a leeward movement of the material, forming it, at the same time, into a series of triangles, of which the shore was the base. If any natural or artificial projection intercepted this motion, an accumulation, which would increase and be held in check according to the state of the wind, took place up to a certain point, or until the angle formed was filled up, when the shingle would pass round. With groynes, by far the most common action was, unless they were of great height, or short length, for the shingle, after accumulating on the weather side to the level of the top of the groyne, to pass over it, and then travel to leeward.—The degradation of the north shore of Kent, the local formation of shingle around the Isle of Thanet, by the wasting away of that chalky promontory, and the retention of large masses of alluvial matter in Pegwell Bay, were dwelt on. The main belt of shingle lying to the south of Deal, and extending from thence to Dover, with its early and present effects on the harbour at the latter place, were then described; also, the early condition of Folkestone Harbour, the large accumulation of shingle arrested to the westward of that haven, by the projection of a low-water pier, or groyne, at right angles to the harbour, and its effect upon the shore to the eastward, by retarding the progressive motion of the shingle in that

direction. Further on, the curious formation at Dungeness Point, which it was reasonable to suppose did not at one time exist, as the parallel "fulls" of beach between Romney and Lydd, and extending from Winchealsea on the west to Hythe on the east, seemed formerly to have constituted the sea coast. The rectangular "full," running from the banks on the west side of Lydd towards the point, might have been created by an accumulation of shingle travelling from the westward, held in check by the outfall of the river Rother; the angle contained by this spit and the coast to the westward becoming gradually filled up with shingle, a silty deposit would take place on the east side, consequent on the gradual loss of Romney harbour, and the length of the spit would be increased by the parallel ridges of shingle periodically added to, and travelling round it. Numerous examples, extending over two centuries, showed that the average annual increase was six yards, reaching, over certain periods, an average of eight yards per annum,—the absolute increase since the time of Elizabeth being nearly one mile; and they proved conclusively, that the average progress seaward, producing a determinate aggregate elongation in a south-easterly direction, was much greater than had been generally assumed, though not regular, for the Ness had even been stationary during certain periods.—The gradual decadence of the ancient ports of Hythe, Romney, and Lydd, to leeward of this Point, were then alluded to; as also, the diversion of the outfall of the river Rother to Rye, once an estuary of the sea, and then forming Romney Harbour; the great increase of shingle to the westward; the early and abortive attempts to form a harbour at Hastings; the vast abrasion of the coast along Pevensey Bay, the harbour of which place had been lost by the elongation and extension of Langley Point. Between the origin of this Point and that of Dungeness, there was a remarkable similarity, both having originally had a tidal haven to the leeward, eventually choked up by the elongation of these spits across their outfalls; both had pools, or meres, arising from the land-locked waters, and in both cases the modern "fulls" of shingle could be plainly distinguished from the more ancient, by their forms and direction. The remarkable decrease of this point, about three-eighths of a mile, during the last century, appeared to arise principally from Old Brighton Beach no longer affording the necessary supply of shingle.—The early condition and present state of Cuckmere and Newhaven Harbours, the great degradation of the coast at Rottingdean, the sweeping away during Elizabeth's reign of the beach and town of Old Brighton, then standing on the site of the present Chain-pier, the materials from which formed the spits to the eastward, were described.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mex. Institute of Actuaries, 7.—On the Inequitable Operation of the Property and Income Tax Enactment as regards Life and other Interests, and on the Principles by which direct Taxation should be regulated, by Charles Jellicoe, Esq., Actuary to the Eagle Insurance Company: *THURSDAY* Zoological, 3.—General Business.

SCIENTIFIC GOSSIP.—*Gutta Percha in Photography.*—At the meeting of the Photographic Club on Saturday last, Mr. Fry exhibited some charming pictures on glass, obtained by a combination of gutta percha and collodion. To the ordinary collodion—gun-cotton dissolved in ether—a small quantity of gutta percha is added, which readily dissolves. This is employed with the ordinary materials for the processes on glass,—the picture being developed by pyro-gallic acid. The extraordinary sensibility of this preparation may be inferred from the fact, that a positive copy from a glass negative has been obtained in five seconds by gas-light. The film formed on glass is far more adherent than the ordinary collodion or albumen:—we may, therefore, expect many valuable results from Mr. Fry's discovery.

The Photographic Club is exciting much interest amongst artists. At the last meeting—at Mr. Fry's house—Sir Charles Eastlake, Mr. Harding, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Mulready, Mr. Lane, Mr. Percott Knight, Mr. George Cruikshank, and several other artists and men of science, were present.

FINE ARTS

Life of Thomas Stothard, R.A., with Personal Reminiscences. By Mrs. Bray. With numerous Illustrations from his Works. Murray.

A MORE beautiful volume than this is not often issued. The "numerous illustrations" have been chosen with a sedulous respect for the reputation of the graceful artist whose life was in his works; and they have been rendered with most delicate care,—there being something in the nature of Stothard's genius which lent itself with more than ordinary adaptability to this form of presentment. Some of his happiest thoughts were devoted to uses no higher than those of Pocket-book adornment. Seasonable little groups to head the *almanac of the Months*—sketches of Fanny Burney's "sweet Queen" Charlotte among her children (how hideously attired!) or dancing at some birth-night ball—humorous vignettes in illustration of the novelists—had their importance and their beauty in his career, as well as those delicate and *Rafaellesque* fancies in arabesque—those garden-revels in which he almost equalled Watteau—those more simply severe sculptural designs, to be wrought out in marble or bronze, by which the name of Stothard will be best recollected. Thus, great diversity in the selection of illustrations was at once needful and appropriate. As we admire the result, our regret over time wasted and fancy frittered away almost vanishes. It is too much the fancy now-a-days to conceive the artist a creature superior to small tasks and vulgar cares, who should devote his time and mind exclusively to those substantial and enduring poems which mark epochs and make shrines. Yet the great men of old were not thus selfish and impracticable in their sublimity. That they breathed a purer air and basked in a brighter sunshine of public taste than ours do is true:—but why was this? Because they helped to make that air pure, that sunshine gay, by throwing around them the wealth of their genius so prodigally that there was no corner so dark, no point so small, which some sparks of the true diamond could not lighten, where some grains of the real gold-dust might not be found.

The above observations, however,—naturally arising from the book before us, must not lead us too far from the more immediate matter in hand,—its literary value. This is not remarkable.—The life of the gentle and charming painter of 'The Canterbury Pilgrims' and 'The Bath of Diana' was unbroken by vicissitude; and its few events and marking traits are here treated by one who, however rich in sympathy, does not possess that fineness of discrimination and elegance of style which can make much out of little. Mrs. Bray's goodwill is great, and great have been the pains taken by her to set off her subject to what she conceives the best advantage; but her antiquarian tastes are too strong for her. She loses sight of proportion; and is more prosy than the general as distinguished from the special reader will approve. The book, in short, and the fame of Stothard, will live rather by virtue of his own works than by her aid.

Thomas Stothard, the only child of a Yorkshire inn-keeper, who removed to London, was born in Long Acre, on the 17th of August, 1755. His schooling, however, was something better than he might possibly have found in the street of the coachmakers.—

"Thomas being a delicate child, his father, anxious about his health, sent him, when five years old, to his uncle at York, who placed him 'under the care of an old lady, a good woman and a staunch presbyterian.' She lived in the little village of Acomb, near that city. 'There,' said Stothard, 'I grew stronger. She had two sons in the Temple, London, who sent her a present of some of the heads of Houbraiken, framed and gilded; likewise an engraving of the blind Belshazzar, by Strangé; and some religious pictures from the unvalued graver of the same artist. I looked often and curiously at those productions; for the old lady admitted me freely into her room, and seemed pleased with my admiration of them. I gazed till a love of Art grew within me, and a desire to imitate what was on her walls. I got bits of paper and pencils, and made many attempts. I could see that my hand was improving, and I had sketched some things not amiss, when, at eight years old, I was removed to Stratton, the birth-place of my father. Before this, I should have mentioned that my father, pleased with my attempts, had sent me boxes of colours, which I knew so little how to use, that I applied to a house-painter for some mixed paint,

which he gave me in an oyster-shell, and the first man I painted was in black."

When Thomas Stothard was in his thirteenth year, his father

"placed him at a genteel boarding school, at Hford in Essex, where they professed to teach all the languages and accomplishments; there he was half-starved; and there, he used to say, he learned to dance of the father of that wonder of pantomimic action—Grimaldi. Thomas had not been more than a year at Hford, before his father died. The latter for some time had been in a precarious state of health, but, being fond of angling, he went, rather imprudently perhaps, on a fishing excursion to Colnbrook. He caught cold whilst engaged at that sport; and returning to the village, was seized with so sudden and violent an illness, that in two or three days he was a corpse. He was buried in the neighbouring church-yard of Langley in 1770, as the stone on his grave still attests. He left some provision for his widow, and twelve hundred pounds in the funds for his son."

Mrs. Stothard entertained the wise notion of letting her son work out his vocation,—though this was to be done in a manner no more dignified than that of binding him apprentice to a brocade-merchant's draftsman. While, however, his hand was throwing off the impossible peonies, the desperately-involved tendrils, and the quaint reed-stalks which his calling claimed from it, his fancy was already busy with such nobler subjects as Homer's 'Iliad' and Spenser's 'Faery Queen.' Strange to say, his master, the draftsman, so far from displaying any vulgar jealousy, encouraged the boy. His mistress begged for his best drawings to ornament her best parlour. These were seen by Mr. Harrison, the editor of the 'Novelist's Magazine,' who at once gave him a commission for book illustration. In this task, demanding alike facility and fertility, the best part of three years were passed.—

"It will surprise modern collectors, who now give almost any price that may be demanded for these early drawings, to learn how little he received for them. Stothard states, in some old memoranda of accounts found in his own handwriting, that he made one hundred and forty-eight designs for the *Novelist's Magazine*, at one guinea each; that for twenty-six designs for the *Poetical Magazine* he had the same rate of payment; that for twenty theatrical frontispieces (and these were always portraits of the chief actors and actresses of the day) he received seven shillings each; and that for every separate border or vignette his remuneration was six shillings!"

It would be curious and instructive to compare such *honoraria* as these with those of the merry men who design for our weekly humourist, or of the remarkable artists who week by week arrange every event, whether home or foreign, past, present, or to come, for the *Illustrated London News*.—Perhaps the extreme modesty of Stothard's remuneration may have been not the least potent among the many causes which forced him upward from the nether world of caps and bonnets to the staircase at Burleigh—and the monument in York Minster.—From the *Novelist's Library* York Stothard was promoted to fill the ampler pages of *Boydell's Shakespeare*. In 1792 he was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy;—and two years later he was made an Academician, having previously become a husband and a father. The subsequent forty years of his life were passed in a round of incessant labour, pleasant domestic intercourse, and partial recognition. Whereas at the earlier part of Stothard's career Wordsworth's intimate friend Sir George Beaumont professed himself unable to perceive the genius which seems expressly calculated to appeal to a lettered and poetical dilettante such as the baronet was,—in his later years the artist was duly appreciated and cordially cherished by Rogers. His works, compared with those of other flashier painters, fetched low prices: but the poet who can enter into Arcadia as intimately as he did has no reason to complain that he is not a manufacturer of Waterloo Banquets, Reform Congresses—or the like. In his own poetry there is an exceeding and eternal pleasure with which no stranger can intermeddle.

Little else is left us to do than to extract some passages and *dicta* possessing a special interest or throwing light on the placid character of the artist. By the following paragraph, we perceive that the Decameron painter was as close an observer of by-way nature as Albrecht Dürer (with those wonderful botanical memoranda of his), or as the youngest of the Pre-Raphaelites who paints a picture for the sake of the chervil on the bank or the moss on

The rotted, old oak stump.

"Not, however, in butterflies only, but in everything Stothard was an indefatigable student of nature. He was nowhere without a sketch-book, and nothing struck his eye or his fancy but it was transferred to it. He recommended this practice to others, with the injunction, never to alter anything when absent from the object drawn: he said that, unless this rule was observed, all the spirit of the sketch would be lost. In his walks to Iwer (about eighteen miles from London), whither he often went, accompanied by his son Alfred, to visit his aged aunt, Mrs. Hales, after they had passed Acton, he would say, 'Now let us leave the high road, and away to the fields and the hedges; we shall find there some beautiful plants, well worth seeking.' No sooner had they done so, than the sketch-book and colour-box were brought forth from his pocket; and many a wild plant, with its delicate formation of leaf and flower, was carefully copied on the spot. This was done with a fine pen filled with the bluis required; the springing of the tendrils from the stem, and every elegant bend and turn of the leaves, or the drooping of a bell, was observed and depicted with the utmost beauty. When reminded by his son of the long way they had yet to go, and that they must absolutely proceed, or run the chance of being benighted, he would nevertheless linger to the last moment, and then close the book with regret. And when the walk was resumed, he sometimes stopped and exclaimed:—'Look, Alfred, observe that plant; what a study for an architect! Few architects can build churches and towers, or add pinnacles and ornaments with taste and skill; but let them come here—that plant with its little companion, and that with the large broad leaves in the background, would teach them a valuable lesson.'"

It will surprise not a few who have been accustomed to consider many of Stothard's later designs as impaired by the graceful exaggeration, not to say incorrectness of their proportions, to learn how severe a stickler he was for accuracy in drawing.—

"He deemed it absolutely necessary to learn to draw well, since, without good drawing, the finest conceived and coloured picture would but possess half its interest; for, in badly drawn figures, as in badly shaped limbs in a human being, there is always something of deformity, something not natural. Stothard indeed carried this admiration of good drawing very far. He went to see Martin's celebrated picture of Belshazzar's Feast, at the time all the town were engaged in admiring it. He praised the conception of it, as a whole, and especially the grandeur conveyed by the supernatural light from the writing on the wall, making pale and dim all the earthly lights, even the fires kindled to Moloch in the sacrifice. Yet, whilst doing the fullest justice to the genius of Martin, he soon turned away from the picture, with the remark, 'The bad drawing of the figures hurts my eye; it is disagreeable.'"

Yet Mrs. Bray's *memoranda* assure us—nay, we are fainful enough to imagine that we could have divined as much from the grace and harmony of the artist's works—that never was professional man a less grudging admirer of the productions of his brethren.

The histories of the "Canterbury Pilgrims," of the Wellington Shield, and of the design for Chantry's monument of the Sleeping Children in Lichfield Cathedral are severally discussed by Mrs. Bray at great length. In the case of the last-named work of Art, a question which has been again and again raised in a shadowy and uncertain sort of manner is brought to a precise solution by the publication of Stothard's original design, now in the possession of Mr. Peter Cunningham.

A paragraph or two illustrating the artless personal habits of the artist may be added by way of a close to our notes on this beautiful book.—

"In his external appearance, he certainly neglected the graces; for he was exceedingly careless in his dress, and his mind, absorbed in his pursuits, made him occasionally so lost, that he would do things that alone could be expected from persons well characterised as absent. He was once to dine, I believe, with Mr. Rogers, the poet, to meet Mrs. Barbauld, and, probably, Madame de Staël, during her visit to England. Stothard, on this occasion, expressed his intention of making himself smart! But, when he got to the door of Mr. Rogers, in St. James's Park, feeling his throat rather cold, and before the portal opened to his rap, he chanced to place his hand on his neck, when he found that he had forgotten to put on his cravat! He made a hasty retreat before the door was opened, to return home for this very necessary part of his attire.—Charles used to relate an anecdote of his father's love of romance-reading; by which he was so absorbed as sometimes to forget both time and place. It occurred whilst that son was a boy of fifteen. The youth had been engaged in Mrs. Radcliffe's powerful work of 'The Italian.' Stothard took the book out of his son's hand just before the lad went to bed, to see what sort of romance had so bewitched him. The next day, Charles learnt that his father had been no less interested in it, and that he had sat up nearly all the night, till his candles were burnt out, and day dawned in upon him, ere he could close the volume."

With a laudable care, Mrs. Bray has drawn out a list of Stothard's principal pictures, and another of the prices fetched by his works when they were sold after the decease of the painter. His correspondence may have been too *pale* and too unmarked to figure with any effect in print:—but

the heart and mind had other uses for the hand. His designs are said to be in number upwards of ten thousand.

J. M. W. TURNER, R.A.

Joseph Mallord William Turner, the great landscape painter of his age and country, died, on the 19th instant, in his seventy-sixth year, at Chelsea,—in a small lodging in which he had lived for some years, though his own house was in Queen Anne Street, Cavendish Square. He was the father, or senior member, of the Royal Academy,—and had he lived but three months would have won his honour of an R.A. exactly half a century. At the death of so eminent an artist we may be excused for recalling Cowley's exclamation on the death of Vandeyck :—

Vandeyck is dead; but what bold Muse shall dare
(Though poets in that word with painter's share)
To express her sadness? Poésie must become
An Art like Painting here, an Art that's dumb.

But the two great painters thus accidentally coupled together had little in common save genius. Vandeyck lived profusely, died young and in debt,—Turner lived penuriously, died old and enormously rich.

Our great landscape painter was the son of William Turner, a barber; and was born, in 1775, over his father's shop, at No. 26, Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, on the north side of the lane, at the corner of Hand Court. His father dressed wigs, shaved beards, and in the days of queues, top-knots and hair powder waited on the gentlemen of "the Garden," as the locality still continues to be called, at their own houses, and made money by his trade, then a more flourishing profession than that of a hair-dresser in the present day. The mother's name no one has told us;—but the father lived to see his son famous,—dying, in 1829, in the painter's house in Queen Anne Street, at the age of eighty-four. He was buried, by his own request, in the church of St. Paul, Covent Garden,—where a small tablet to his memory, erected by his son, is still to be seen.

Where or in what way the son first evinced his love for Art has never transpired. He cared as little about talking of his early days as he did in after life of his finances; so that inquisitive persons gained little by any questions—and some were put to him—on the subject of his early predilection for Art. He was, however, an exhibitor at the Royal Academy Exhibition in his fifteenth year :—the Catalogue for 1790 recording the appearance of a 'View of the Archbishop's Palace at Lambeth,'—the artist being described as "J. W. Turner, living in Maiden Lane, Covent Garden." The view was a water-colour drawing,—as, indeed, were most of his early works; and the place of exhibition was the room set apart for "Sculptures and Drawings,"—statues, drawings, miniatures and models in wax being at that time grouped together in one apartment.

Mr. Turner continued henceforth a constant exhibitor in the rooms of the Royal Academy :—sending in 1791 views of 'The Palace at Eltham' and of 'Swakeley House near Uxbridge,'—in 1792 of 'Malmesbury Abbey' and of 'The Pantheon in Oxford Street on the Morning after the Fire,'—in 1793 of 'The Avon near St. Vincent's Rocks,' of 'St. Augustine's Gate at Canterbury,' and another subject in which he threw aside the trammels of architectural detail caught from the school of Mr. Dayes, and evinced for the first time that mastery of effect for which he is now so justly celebrated. This was, 'The Rising Squall, Hot Wells from St. Vincent's Rock, Bristol,'—and artists who remarked the drawing at the time, and with whom we have talked on the subject of Turner's early works, were accustomed to speak of this early picture as one in which a common subject was treated with a poet's eye and a painter's hand.

The father feeling confidence in the genius of his son, and the son obtaining a little money from the sale of his drawings, a sufficient sum was raised from the barber's till and the painter's pocket to enable the young artist to look for distant and more striking subjects for his pencil. These he sought at Canterbury, where he drew

Christ Churchgate and St. Anselm's Chapel with part of Becket's crown,—at Malvern, where he copied the porch of Tintern Abbey, of which he drew the interior,—and at the Devil's Bridge, in Cardiganshire, where he transferred to paper the 'Second Fall of the River Monach.' The whole of these drawings were in the Exhibition of 1794;—as other fruits of the same tour were in the Exhibition of the following year, varied by views of Lincoln and Peterborough Cathedrals—of the choir of King's College Chapel, Cambridge—and by drawings derived from scenes which had pleased him at Wrexham, Shrewsbury, and Tintern. From these he derived both profit and reputation; having, thus early, with Girtin and others, the honour of founding the English School of Water-Colour Art.

He continued his pursuit of topographical drawing for some time longer; finding that it was a profitable line of Art,—and feeling doubtless that travelling and the examination of new scenes enabled him to put together such phases and effects of nature as would be of future use in the higher line of landscape painting. He soon began to feel his strength and also to vary the subjects of his pencil. In 1796 we find him exhibiting 'Fishermen coming ashore at Sunset previous to a Gale;' and in 1798 he had extended his wanderings with the pencil into Yorkshire, Westmoreland, Cumberland, and Northumberland. 'The Seasons' was then as much his favourite poem as in after life was his own MS. 'Fallacies of Hope.' Over each scene he sought to throw an effect of cloud, or storm, or sunshine,—or some novel combination which he had observed in nature, different from the everlasting effects of moonlight and evening with which Pether and Barrett and even Louthborough had contrived to sicken and weary the public eye. Thus, Buttermere Lake he chose to represent under a shower,—Norham at daybreak (notas Sir Walter Scott drew it afterwards at day-set in the opening of 'Marmion') and under the colour of a 'View of Dunstanburgh Castle' he gave us an effect of sunrise after a squally night with a taste of the wild coast of Northumberland, and only a distant peep of the Castle from which the picture derived its name. Other favourite effects with him at this time were, a hazy sunrise, clearing up after a showery day, and the approach of a thunderstorm at sunset. He was thus early attentive to the varieties of nature, and copied her with a master's hand. He had not yet begun to make "additions" to nature,—and to think with Sir Godfrey Kneller that if his assistance had been sought at the beginning of the world, the world had been a more beautiful one than it now is.

His skill increasing with his years, he painted and exhibited in 1799 a picture of a 'Sunny Morning,' the cattle by Saurey Gilpin, R.A. (a curiosity, we should think, if not something more),—and 'The Battle of the Nile at ten o'clock when the ship L'Orient blew up.' These told with the public,—and, better still, with the Royal Academicians. His name was now popular even out of artistic circles; and in the election for associates in the winter of 1799—he was chosen an A.R.A. It was therefore time, he thought, to leave the garret over his father's shop;—so, he moved the next year from Maiden Lane to 64, Harley Street, then a much more fashionable street than it is now. Here his ambition in his art grew with his ambition for a good appearance in the world; and in 1800, in the first year of his associateship, he exhibited 'The Fifth Plague of Egypt,'—and in the second, 'Dutch boats in a gale, fishermen endeavouring to put their fish on board.' These added to his already well-earned reputation; and in February 1802 he was elected a Royal Academician,—presenting as his diploma picture a view of 'Dolladen Castle, North Wales.' The list of associates from which he was chosen is indeed a sorry list :—not one, with the single exception of Bone the enamelist, whose best works would assist an artist at the present day to the honours of Suffolk Street or of the Free Exhibition.

Tired for a time—or rather perhaps deeming the public tired—offishermen and the coast, and ships at anchor,—he turned to other subjects,—made hurried visits to Scotland, Switzerland and the Rhine,—and exhibited on his return his noble pictures of 'Edin-

burgh from the Calton Hill,' 'The Festival upon the opening of the Vintage of Macon' (Lord Yarborough's picture), and 'The Falls of the Rhine at Schaffhausen.' These were followed by 'Narcissus and Echo,' a 'Holy Family' (No. 156 of the Exhibition of 1803), 'Pembroke Castle—clearing up of a thunder storm,' and other pictures embodying scenes either abroad or at home. Still, however, sensibly insisting with himself on the charm of variety, and willing to show his command over effects, he painted and exhibited in 1807 'The Sun rising through vapour, fishermen cleaning and selling fish,'—and, more extraordinary still, 'A Country Blacksmith disputing upon the price of iron and the price charged to the butcher for shoeing his pony;—two pictures which "killed" every picture within the range of their effects. Oddly enough, a modest picture thus injured by being hung between the two fires was, 'The Blind Fiddler,'—then the second exhibited picture of a lad raw from Scotland contriving to exist, without getting into debt, on eighteen shillings a week. Turner, it is said, on the varnishing day set apart for the privileged body to which he belonged, reddened his sun, and blew the bellows of his art on his blacksmith's forge, "to put the Scotchman's nose out of joint who had gained so much reputation by his 'Village Politicians.' The story is told, without naming Turner, in Allan Cunningham's 'Life of Wilkie,'—and is condemned as an untruth by the reviewer of the *Life in the Quarterly Review*. But there is no doubt of the truth of the story; and that Wilkie remembered the circumstance with some acerbity—though he never resented it openly—we can ourselves undertake to say. When 'The Forge' was sold at Lord Tarkerville's sale, Wilkie was in Italy; and Collins, the painter, in describing the sale to him in a MS. letter now before us adds, "And there was your old enemy, 'The Forge.'"

It was not often, however, that Turner was thus purposely overdone in colour to the injury of works hung within the range of his own pictures. It is told that on one occasion he actually injured the effect of a favourite landscape for the purpose of allowing a portrait by Sir Thomas Lawrence to be seen to full advantage. If Lawrence when in the full blaze of his reputation was sensitive on the subject of too much colour reflected by a neighbouring picture, what must have been the feeling of a boy toiling and striving to awaken reputation under seal of that important body into whose hands he had entrusted his picture! These warm effects which Turner produced by a wholesale application of orange chrome were well illustrated by Chantrey on a varnishing day at the Academy when the weather for the time of year was unusually raw and cold. Stopping before a picture by Turner, he seized the artist's arm—placed his hands before a blaze of yellow in an attitude of obtaining warmth—and said, with a look of delight, "Turner, this is the only comfortable place in the room. Is it true, as I have heard, that you have a commission to paint a picture for the Sun Fire Office?"

We must leave the pleasant labour of following Turner year by year through his long list of exhibited pictures, and of water-colour drawings made by him and sold without being exhibited,—contenting ourselves with noticing generally the appearance of many works, some of which confirmed while others materially added to his reputation. Among the number which confirmed his fame, we may mention his 'Spithead Boat's Crew receiving an Anchor,' his 'Lowther Castle,' and 'The Deluge,'—and among those which added to his fame, his 'Apollo and Python,' his 'Dido and Æneas,' and his 'Dido building Carthage.' To this period also belongs the large picture of the 'Gale at Sea' now in the Bridgewater Gallery,—where it hangs as a worthy companion to one of Vandervelde's finest works, 'The Rising of the Gale.' 'The Guard Ship at the Nore,' a small picture in the possession of Mr. Wadmore, is another admirable example of his pencil in his early style of Art:—for, like Wilkie and a few other English artists—not to mention foreign instances—Turner had two styles,—his early, and as some think better, style,—his later and, as some think, worse. To

this some have added a third or middle period, wherein he is thought to have embodied the excellencies of both periods without the mannerism of his later peculiarities. The student unacquainted with the characteristics of Turner's styles will find them admirably illustrated in the two large pictures belonging to Lord Yarborough exhibited at the British Institution about two years ago, and in the two views of Venice in the Vernon Gallery. It would be easy to point out other instances:—but in his latter style we have named a public gallery where his works may be seen without the slightest difficulty,—while with regard to his early manner we have thought of those only in which he is greatest, and those most recently before the public.

As Claude had his 'Liber Veritatis,' so Mr. Turner had his 'Liber Studiorum';—but what Claude confined to a single copy, Mr. Turner enlarged to a greater number by engraving the designs of his own 'Liber' with his own hand. There are critics Turner-mad, who see in the 'Liber Studiorum'—

What's the Lorraine light-touched with softening hue,
Or Savage Rosa dash'd or learned Poussin drew,—
who find in it such a superabundance of material for landscape Art that a young man might succeed as a painter with no larger stock of combinations and effect than Turner has supplied in this volume. Of course this is very much overdone. Fresh Smiths of Chichester and Wrights of Derby might be mushroomed-up with ease from the hot-bed of the 'Liber Studiorum,'—but no young painter will become a great artist who gives his days and nights solely to its contents. The book is by no means common; so that, whatever is excellent in it,—and there is much that is so,—has as yet wrought neither good nor evil. It deserves to be studied,—and we hope now that it will become more accessible than it has hitherto been.

Hitherto, the works of our great painter of landscapes had been confined to the canvases and the skill of his own etching-needle,—but in 1814 he commenced, in conjunction with the two Cookes, his admirable work on the Picturesque Scenery of the Southern Coast,—of which it is not too much to say that it is one of the choicest publications which the eye of the painter and the hand of the engraver have as yet put forth. The choicer engravings are by the late George Cooke;—of whom it may be truly said that no one has succeeded better in catching the spirit of Mr. Turner's drawings, while at the same time he has done full justice to the requirements of his own art. This is no slender praise, when we consider that Turner has of late years employed the gravers of Goodall, Miller, Pye, Prior, and all the best artists of our school.—The plates to his 'River Scenery' and his 'Annual Tours' are of an inferior character.

Mr. Turner had many patrons,—and his pictures have found their way into many of our best private collections. At Petworth may be seen his 'Echo,' 'Evening,' 'The Thames at Eton,' a small middle-period picture, 'The Thames at Windsor,' 'Chichester Canal,' 'Petworth Park,' 'Brighton Pier,' 'Tabley House and Lake, Cheshire' (the best picture of his at Petworth), and that absurdity which all condemn, his 'Jessica at the Window,'—a female head looking out of a monster mustard-pot. We have already referred to the two famous pictures belonging to Lord Yarborough, and to the noble specimen of the same period of his art in the Bridgewater Gallery. Mr. Munro, of Hamilton Place, has his 'Venus and Adonis,' and two fine Italian landscapes of the best time of the second period. In the Vernon Gallery is his 'William the Third landing at Torbay,' at Mr. Sheepshanks' may be seen some good examples of his later period,—as also at Mr. Bicknell's at Herne Hill and Mr. Wadmore's at Stamford Hill. Mr. Rogers, the poet, has a marvellous drawing of 'Stonehenge' in his best manner. At Abbotsford are several beautiful drawings of the scenery and antiquities of Scotland:—but it is at Mr. Windus's on Tottenham Green that Turner is on his throne.—There, he may be studied, understood, and admired—not in half-a-dozen or twenty instances, but in scores upon scores of choice examples.

But the booksellers and print-publishers were as

much his patrons as the owner of Petworth or of Appledurcombe. He was employed by both on very liberal terms—on almost, indeed, his own terms,—and he was far from a bad hand at making a bargain. Of this many amusing instances will bear to be told by his future biographer. In the book line, the best instance of his talents may be found in Rogers's 'Italy,' and the worst in his vignettes for Sir Egerton Brydges' edition of Milton.

He affected a mystery about his art,—and never allowed any of his own brethren of the brush to see him at work. At Petworth, he wrought with locked doors; and Chantrey, with whom he was on intimate terms, was enabled to see him at work only by the aid of a trick. Chantrey by a bribe had taken care to ascertain from one of the servants of the house the peculiar knock which Lord Egremont was accustomed to give at Turner's door when the patron was anxious to see the painter at his labour. Possessed of this secret, Chantrey proceeded to the door, imitating Lord Egremont's step and cough,—and gave, with admirable similitude of sound, the very kind of knock which Lord Egremont was accustomed to give. The door opened immediately, and in walked Chantrey,—much at first to the annoyance of Turner; who was subdued to good humour only by the recollection that Chantrey, though once a painter, was now living by sculpture. This affectation of a secret was unworthy of a great artist. No other great painter ever professed to have a secret. Wilkie prepared his palette before young and old, and even painted while painters were in the room.

It was a piece of good sense in Turner carried to eccentricity, to purchase and roll up many of the choice examples of his own pencil. He did not collect the works of others, but he hoarded up his own. Absurd prices have been offered to him for his 'Carthage' and his 'Crossing the Brook,'—two of the pictures which he chose to retain and rank among his choicest productions. But no; he would not part with them:—and what their state may now be, and what their destiny, it is idle to conjecture.

The artists of his admiration—the only artists whom he cared to talk about—were Reynolds and Girtin. He lived at Twickenham; he affected to say,—that he might live in sight of Sir Joshua's house upon the hill. He drew his purse to buy Sir Joshua's palette to present to Shee;—and he has, it is said, requested to be buried in St. Paul's by the side of Sir Joshua. His admiration for Girtin took a less tangible form. In a fit of generosity he talked of erecting a monument to mark the grave of his friend and rival in Covent Garden churchyard; but when the amount was named—a few shillings over ten pounds—he shrugged his shoulders, and rested satisfied with the bare intention. The grave, we are sorry to say, is still unmarked;—a headstone to Girtin would be a graceful tribute from either the old or the New Water Colour Society,—or, indeed, from both.

It is already asked in artistic circles,—“Will the fame of Turner remain enduringly at its present height,—and will not posterity avenge the excess of contemporary admiration by a too low estimate of his genius?” A large proportion of his pictures, of both periods of his art, will always, it can scarcely be doubted, realize large prices; but those eccentricities of a great genius in which he of late years indulged, and which rendered it necessary that he should attach rings to his pictures (contrary to Academical requirements) in order to show which side of the picture should be hung uppermost,—these were his dotages and lees, and will in all probability sink in reputation and in price. No amount of ingenious writing can maintain them in their present position. Like Wilkie's works in his later style—of which so much was said in his own lifetime—they will fall to their proper level. Whoever wishes to possess a single Turner will if he has true taste take care to secure, if he can, a picture of a period before 1820. No painter will be found to have thrown both nature and art into more extraordinary convulsions than he in his later works—in some possessing many of his finer qualities. His views of Venice, noble poems as they are in many respects, are in parts grossly untrue. He twists buildings into places where in

reality they are not,—and piles Mr. Ruskin's beloved “Stones of Venice” in localities in which Mr. Ruskin we are sure is unable to maintain them. Contrast the noble ‘View of Venice’ by Bonington, in Mr. Munro's collection, with the Turner in the Vernon Gallery,—and see what outrages Turner in the eccentricity and abundance of his genius has thought fit to commit with materials requiring no such jugglery to make them more picturesque than they really are.

In some quarters our opinions will be received as so many proofs of ignorance—so many insults offered to the majesty of genius:—we feel, however, that we are doing full justice to a great painter while writing thus prophetically. He is, beyond question, at the head of our landscape painters,—greater than Wilson, greater than Gainsborough. Contrasted with the great masters of the Continental schools, he will be admitted as worthy to rank with Claude and Poussin. But he is more varied than either:—giving us, as he does at times, pictures worthy of Cyp or of Vandervelde,—which Claude and Poussin never attempted to supply.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The absurd regulation by which the Royal Academy of Fine Arts refuses to fill up a vacancy in the list of its higher members which has not been declared three months, and limits itself to choosing Academicians at only one period of the year, will once more—as it did only a short time ago—operate to keep certain rights in abeyance for somewhere about fourteen months. It is difficult to understand the policy of such a rule,—or why the Academy, having a vacancy in its body, should not at once proceed to fill it up. By the death of Mr. Turner—announced in the preceding columns—some Associate, whoever that may be, is at once entitled to take full rank as an Academician,—and some artist or other outside the walls acquires a title to succeed him as an Associate. The honour is in any case waited for sufficiently long to make it desirable that no time should, at any rate, be lost in conferring it when the opportunity has accrued,—still more so, that the chance should not be wantonly incurred of defeating altogether by unnecessary delay an acknowledged title. The same power that stepped between Wyatt and that dignity with which we fancy the Academy regrets sincerely now that it never invested him, may intervene to convert what is meant merely as retardation into deprivation—a definite adjournment into one *sine die*. In that case, what is always a temporary injustice becomes a final and irremediable wrong. The Academy has too many sins of this kind already on its conscience:—surely an arrangement so needless, in as far as we can see, and involving so much injustice, might be reconsidered.

Speaking of the Academy, we may mention that many candidates are, as we are informed, in the field, for the Professorship of Anatomy vacated by the resignation of Mr. Green. The names of Messrs. South, Skey, Tuson, and Simpson are amongst those which have been mentioned to us.

We have seen a specimen of what, so far as we know, is a new form of publication,—a portrait of Kossuth taken by the daguerreotype,—the actual photographs being circulated by Messrs. Henneman & Co., of Regent Street, instead of copies taken in lithograph. They are enclosed in small miniature cases after the manner of original portraits of the daguerreotype class. The likeness is verified by the written testimonial of Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart,—to which verification, from personal knowledge we can add our own. It seems to us that this is a very interesting use of photography,—and, in cases where the celebrity of the subject can command such a circulation as will render it possible to sell copies so taken at a low price, should offer remuneratory temptations to a publisher. It is obviously inapplicable under other conditions.

While on the subject of the Daguerreotype we cannot refrain from alluding, as proof of the perfection to which the improved processes that have been from time to time recorded in our columns are gradually bringing this instrument of representation, to one of its products which we have lately seen. It is a portrait, by the daguerreotypist

himself, of Mr. Mayall,—and whose labours in his art have been kept before the public by his communications to our columns. The portrait is on a large scale,—and has but little in common with works of its class. It is rather like such a first-rate mezzotint print as we are accustomed to see from the hands of Samuel Cousins.—Breadth of effect, masses of light and shade—the latter without blackness—so beautifully reflected into, that every gradation may be traced in uninterrupted continuity—absence of the severe and morose—admirable tinting and execution of the drapery, broad in its general mass, yet full of the most delicate details—these combined with a simple action whose forms are not exaggerated by ill-judged management of focal distance—are the elements of one of the most successful results of this process that we have ever yet beheld. It testifies to resources of many kinds:—sensitivity to Art, optical knowledge, and chemical practice.

Mr. Cockerell, the Professor of Architecture in the Royal Academy, will begin his course of lectures to the students of that institution on Thursday, the 8th of January next, and continue them on the five succeeding Thursdays.

It has been determined that a bronze statue of the Queen shall be erected in Peel Park, Manchester, to commemorate Her Majesty's visit to the Park, and the assemblage of the scholars of the Sunday schools on that occasion. The minimum sum proposed to be raised by subscription for the work is, 1,500*l.*—and we suppose that the principle of competition will once more be called into exercise. This principle, in spite of much that may be said—and that we have again and again pointed out—in objection to it—seems as a mere matter of reasoning to present the best means of obtaining the best work for the money subscribed. But theoretical views must be tested and finally determined by practical results; and there is no denying that the principle has been found to work unsatisfactorily. One reason for this is so obvious as scarcely need stating. In order that competition should produce the best work, it is necessary that the best artists should compete:—and unless the prize be high, the highest sculptors are not tempted into the field—nor always if it be. We would suggest to this Committee—who have but a small sum to offer for a bronze statue—that they might very prudently, without any direct appeal of their own to competition, avail themselves of a limited and unconscious competition which is now going on as beneficially for their purpose as if they had summoned it. In the course of next year, some of the great towns of England will have uncovered for posterity their monuments to the great Memory which consecrates the very Park in which their new statue is to be placed. Let them take these arbitrarily for their candidate models,—and let the offer of their proposed work be the prize of that which they adjudge to be the best—price and other conditions being taken into the account.

The Royal Scottish Academy of Art has, it is said, made during the past year certain valuable additions to its collection of works of Art. The well-known and excellent copy executed by Mr. Reinagle, of Rubens's 'Crucifixion' has been presented to that institution by Mrs. Robertson, of Ednam.—Sir John Watson Gordon has, we learn, offered to paint full-length portraits of Lord Rutherford and of Sir William Gibson Craig, as a mark of the artist's appreciation of the services to which the public and the profession were indebted for the successful issue of the negotiations respecting the erection of a National Gallery. The pictures to be the property of the institution.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MUSICAL WINTER EVENINGS.—WILLIS'S ROOMS.—1851.—In consequence of the Anniversary of the Madrigal Society taking place on the 18th of January, the FIRST CONCERT is deferred until the 25th of January. Sonatas, Duets, Trios, Quartets, Quintets, Tetrads, Septets, Octets, Nonets, and Solos will be executed by Sivori, Santon, Hill, Platt, Iottstein, Bricaldi, Darret, Baumann, Lazarus, the eminent pianist Herr Pauer, and other distinguished artists.—Subscription for the Six Concerts, 1*l.* 10*s.* These Evenings will be conducted in the same social spirit as the Matinees of the Musical Union. A limited number of Season Tickets at One Guinea each are reserved for Artists and Students. Prospectuses to be had of Craner & Co., and the Principal Music-sellers. J. ELLA, Director.

PANTOMIMES.

Notwithstanding the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain, the Pantomimes this year promise to be in great force. As they will not appear till too late for notice this week, and will have been seen by so many who are interested before our next publication, we shall content ourselves with an announcement of the promise held out by the Play Bills.

Mr. Bunn's at DRURY LANE is the most classical in conception and the most catholic in its moral:—Hogarth's 'Two Apprentices' providing it with a subject and a title. The management seems to have commenced with spirit.—An operatic and ballet company is announced:—to consist of Messrs. Sims Reeves, Whitworth and Manvers,—Mesdames Sims Reeves, P. Horton, Poole, Mdle. Evelina Garcia, and M. Feder,—and of Mdle. Plunkett, M. Petipa, Mr. W. H. Payne, and Mdle. Priora. The Parisian ballet *Vert Vert*—M. Planché's spectacle—and operas by Messrs. W. Balfe, J. Barnett, Macfarren, Benedict, and E. Loder are among the forthcoming novelties of the musical department.

At the PRINCESS's, the Brothers Sala and Mr. George Ellis have united the plots of the ballad of 'Billy Taylor' and the legend of 'The Flying Dutchman.' The title of the pantomime is 'Harlequin Billy Taylor; or, the Flying Dutchman and the King of the Island of Raritongo.'

At the OLYMPIC, also, there is a pantomime—one of the numerous pieces of the kind by Mr. Nelson Lee. It is entitled 'Red Rufus; or, Harlequin Fact, Fiction and Fancy.'

SADLER'S WELLS is great in pantomime. As usual, the present one is the work of Mr. Greenwood; whose subject is, the present gold mania, offered under the tempting title of 'Harlequin and the Yellow Dwarf; or, the Enchanted Orange Tree and the King of the Gold Mine.'

At the SURREY, the pantomime is by Mr. E. L. Blanchard:—and is entitled 'The King of the Golden Seas; or, Harlequin Blue Cap and the Three Kingdoms, Animal, Vegetable, and Mineral.'

The pantomime at the MARLBOROUGH theatre is entitled 'Sir John Barleycorn; or, Harlequin Champagne and the Fairies of Hop and Vine.'—Mr. Nelson Lee has catered for himself at the CITY OF LONDON:—'Oliver Cromwell; or, Harlequin Charley over the Water and the Maid of Patty's Mill' is the title of the pantomime.—The same writer has been the provider for ASTLEY's. The subject there is taken from *Punch*:—'Mr. and Mrs. Briggs; or, Harlequin and Punch's Festival.'—The same indefatigable pantomime manufacturer has likewise supplied the theatres royal Victoria, Edinburgh, Southampton, Liverpool, Norwich, and Dublin, and the Royal Circus at Plymouth, with their Christmas pieces.

From Pantomimes we pass to the

BURLESQUES.

In these eccentric dramas the HAYMARKET occupies by right the first position. Here, the Brothers Brough provide an entertainment. It is called 'The Princess Radiant; or, the Story of Mayflower,' and is taken from Count Anthony Hamilton's Fairy Tales.—At the LYCEUM the indefatigable Mr. Planché has again resorted to the Countess D'Alnois,—and for his subject has chosen 'The Prince of Happy Land.' Mrs. Matthews makes her appearance in this piece with Miss St. George and Miss Lanza; to whom may be added Miss Martindale and Miss Grove. Mr. F. Matthews, Mr. Baker, Mr. Suter and Mr. Horncastle are the leading actors.—PUNCH'S PLAYHOUSE has also an Extravaganza,—a Chinese one, by Messrs. G. Talford and Hale. It is founded on the love-story of the Willow-pattern, and entitled 'The Willow-pattern Plate.'

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—The past twelve months may be looked back on as a musical year neither very fruitful nor very interesting. In London, it may be said that the standard of performance has been kept up,—that the amount of home-effort at creation has been

on the whole inconsiderable,—that distinguished strangers have been few,—and that the only artist unfamiliar to England, Madame Barbieri-Nini, may be alleged, in more senses of the word than one, to have arrived too late. In stating these facts, however, we are not to be numbered among the disappointed professors and overworked jurymen who, retrospectively reviewing the small amount of musical progress and satisfaction in 1851, cry 'The Great Exhibition has done it all!' For years have we week by week been pointing out how on the side of the Artist too low ambitions, and on that of the Public too high expectations, ran some risk of narrowing and exhausting Music. The time of exhaustion—or, to be more hopeful, let us call it the time of preparation—seems now to have set in. The future may largely depend on the manner in which its good influences are turned to account and its evil ones counteracted.

The foreign musical year has been marked by one important event,—the appearance of M. Gounod, and his acceptance as a composer. We have little need to restate our judgment of this gentleman. The recognition of his music has been more rapid, both in England and in France, than was the case with either Beethoven, Mendelssohn, or Meyerbeer. Should the coming year prove one of outward political tranquillity, it may be also one of new productions. That it may prove the latter is a petition which should be the first on the rosary of every musician,—be he artist or amateur.

The Scotch papers have reported the death of Mr. Alexander, the proprietor of Dunlop Street Theatre, Glasgow,—who had only a few months since retired from the stage. The deceased was fifty-five years of age. As a comedian, says the *Glasgow Courier*, he ranked high in his profession. During his career he was lessee of the Adelphi Theatre in his native city, and also of the Carlisle and Dumfries Theatres; but for a period of from twenty to thirty years he has been most intimately connected with the management of dramatic representations in Glasgow, and particularly of the establishment in Dunlop Street. "The announcement of his death," adds the *Courier*, "will bring to the recollection of many of the sons of Glasgow who are removed from their native city reminiscences in connexion with its local theatricals peculiarly amusing."

MISCELLANEA

Electro-Telegraphic Progress.—The Submarine Telegraph Company are getting made several new metallic cables, in addition to that already in operation—one conductor being already insufficient to convey the multitude of despatches now exchanged between London and the Continent. The facility and certainty with which the telegraph has worked have already effected a great revolution in commercial arrangements, which would be thrown into confusion by the rupture of the communication. Night and day it is carried on. There is still a space of about a mile (from East Cliff to the South-Eastern Telegraph Office) unconnected by the wires. The distance has to be done by horse express, and, consequently, causes a few minutes break in the communication. The desideratum is, however, to be speedily supplied. The number of telegraphic stations now open and in connexion with the central station of the Electric Telegraph Company in Lombury, amount to 226, embracing all the principal towns in the kingdom. Nearly seventy are principal commercial stations, at which the attendance is day and night: the length of the lines of communication extend over 2,500 miles, with 600 in progress of suspension. Since the partial reduction of charges, it is said, persons of all classes are availing themselves of its advantages for business purposes.—*Builder.*

Nimrod Obelisk.—The following identification will, I dare say, interest many of your readers. The king who is seated in the second line of the sculptures on the obelisk is no other than Jehu, king of Israel. He is called *Yā'u* the son of *Kā'u* *am* *rī* *ī*; that is *Nimrod* the son of *Uruk*, or according to the English version, *Jehu* the son of *Omri*. The name of his supposed father is precisely that which appears in the euhemeristic name of Samaria, *Yit-Khuari*, as identified by Col. Rawlinson. It is true that *Jehu* was

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neither the son nor the grandson of Omri; nor is it probable that he was connected with his family at all; but the king of Assyria could not know this. He found him on the throne where Omri had sat; and this was a sufficient reason for his calling him his son. As a corroboration of this identification, I observe that Hazael, the king of Syria, the known contemporary of Jehu, is repeatedly mentioned on the Obelisk and in the Bull inscriptions of the same king. He waged war with him in his eighteenth and twenty-first years. Col. Rawlinson calls this king *Khasakan*; but the four characters which compose the name are according to my syllabary *Khd'ji' or dza'a'h' II*, the last being here the ideograph for "God." This name would be in Hebrew *Yehoiachin*, which is nearly the Biblical name of the king. From this identification, it follows, that the date of the obelisk is, according to the chronology in the margin of our Bibles, about 875 B.C., leaving an interval of less than 150 years between it and the accession of Sargon, the Khorsabad king. I am, &c. EDW. HICKES.

Killyleagh, Co. Down, December 22.
Perturbations of Uranus.—The Paris correspondent of the *Literary Gazette* says:—"A curious fact for astronomers has just been ascertained. In the paper of the celebrated Lalande, recently presented to the Academy of Sciences by M. Arago, there is a note to the effect that so far back as the 25th of October, 1800, he and Burckhardt were of opinion, from calculations, that there must be a planet beyond Uranus, and they occupied themselves for some time in trying to discover its precise position."

An Idyl for Christmas In-doors.

SPIRIT OF THE HOLLY.
The icy streams are black and slow;
The icy wind goes sighing, sighing;
And far around, and deep below,
The great, broad, blank, unfeathered snow
On the idle earth is lying;
And the birds in the air are dying.
Just now, ere the day-beams flood,
Out of doors I thrust my head,
And saw the livid western light
Sink up, like an eye bewitch'd,
At the staring of the Night.
The bare branches writhe and twitch'd;
And the holly-bushes old
Chatter'd among themselves for cold,
And scraped their leaves 'gainst one another,
And nestled close, like child with mother.

SPIRIT OF THE LAUREL.
Gone is the Summer's warmth and light;
Gone are the rich, red Autumn days;
And Winter old, and Winter white,
Sits moodily in the open ways.
Like a great dumb marble statue,
'Bideh he upon the world;
And his grey eyes, staring at you,
Make you also dumb with cold.
And the woods grow lean and swarth
In the vexings of the North.

SPIRIT OF THE MISTLETOE.
Behind the night young morn is sleeping,
And new hope underlies old weeping,
So, though all the woods are stark,
And the heavens are drowsy-dark,
Earth, within her shadows dunn,
Swings about the golden sun,
Firm and steadily,
True and readily,
Strong in her pulses, every one.
In a deadly sleep she seems;
But her heart is full of dreams—
Full of dreaming and of vision,
Subtle, typical, Elysian,
Out of which, in time, shall rise
All the New Year's verities.

—Christmas Number of 'Household Words.'

A Nut for Geologists.—Hiram de Witt, of this town, who has recently returned from California, brought with him a piece of the auriferous quartz rock, of about the size of a man's fist. On Thanksgiving-day it was brought out for exhibition to a friend, when it accidentally dropped upon the floor and split open. Near the centre of the mass, was discovered, firmly embedded in the quartz and slightly corroded, a cut-iron nail, of the size of a sixpenny nail. It was entirely straight, and had a perfect head. By whom was that nail made? At what period was it planted in the yet uncrystallized quartz? How came it in California? If the head of that nail could talk, we should know something more of American history than we are ever likely to know.—*Springfield (U.S.) Republican.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Received H. G. B.—C. H.—A. C.—AL.—S. A. S.—F. S. A.—P. Mc F.—T. R. J.

PHOTOGRAPHY.—Our communications on this head from Mr. Archer, Mr. Fox Talbot, and Mr. Robert Hunt stand over for want of space.

G.J.A.—This correspondent's communication stands over for the same reason.

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WILLIAM LINDSAY, Secretary.

Edinburgh, 5, St. Andrew-square.

LONDON OFFICE—4, ROYAL EXCHANGE-BUILDINGS.

HUGH M'KEAN, Agent.

SUN FIRE OFFICE, Established 1710.

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Charles Bell Ford, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

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The Hon. P. Playford Bouverie.

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John Drummond, Esq.

James Elliot, Esq.

William Franks, Esq.

Capt. H. G. Hamilton, R.N.

Joseph Hoare, Esq.

Felix Labrosse, Esq.

All persons insured in this Office, the Premiums on whose Policies fall due at the Christmas quarter, are hereby reminded to pay the said Premiums, either at the Offices in Threepenny-street; Charing-cross; or to the Agents in the Country, on or before the 25th day of January, 1853, when the fifteen days, allowed by this Office, over and above the time for which they are insured, will expire.

Insurances may be made for more years than by a single payment, and in such cases there will be a discount allowed on the premium and duty for every year except the first.

RATES OF PREMIUM.

FIRST CLASS. SECOND CLASS. THIRD CLASS.

1s. 6d. per cent. 2s. 6d. per cent. 3s. 6d. per cent.

This Office insures Property in Foreign Countries, and the Rates are regulated by the nature of the risks.

Sun Duty—1848, 181,200; 1849, 180,200; 1850, 191,145.

THE GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Established 1837. Empowered by special Acts of Parliament, 2d Vict. c. 22, and 10th Vict. c. 1.

61, King William-street, London; and 21, St. David-street, Edinburgh.

Capital, One Million.

Directors.

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Thomas Chalmers, Esq., & AID.

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Joseph Fletcher, Esq.

Richard Holt, Esq.

The CHRISTMAS Fire Renewal Receipts are now ready, and may be had on application at the head offices of the Company, or of any of its Agents throughout the country.

IN THE LIFE DEPARTMENT the Company transacts all business relating to Life Assurances, Deferred Annuities, and Family Endowments, upon the most liberal terms consistent with sound principles and public security.

LOANS granted on personal security, and the deposit of a Life Policy to be effected by the borrower.

To all Agents, Solicitors, Auctioneers, and Surveyors, liberal allowance is made.

By Order of the Board,

THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

NORWICH UNION FIRE INSURANCE SOCIETY, CAPITAL £500,000. Duty, 1849, 73,241. 12s. Farming Stock exempt, 9,722. 49d.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Return of Premium, declared by this Office in respect of all Premiums paid from the 25th of December, 1845, to the 24th of December, 1850, is now in the course of payment, and will continue so till Midsummer next, as the respective Insurances have expired.

This Society 3-6ths of the net profits are periodically returned to the Insured, who are at the same time free from all responsibility on account of its engagements.

In this manner the cost of insuring is reduced to the lowest possible amount.

For Prospectuses apply to the Society's Offices, 6, Crescent, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, London, Surrey-street, Norwich.

Established 1805.

COUNTY FIRE OFFICE, 50, Regent-street,

and 3, Royal Exchange Buildings, London.

It is respectfully notified to parties holding policies in this office, the renewals of which fall due at Christmas, that the same should be paid on or before the 9th of January. The receipts are lying at the Offices in London, and in the hands of the several Agents.

The terms of the County Fire Office are highly advantageous to the insured, and have secured to it a large and increasing business. All claims are settled with promptitude and liberality. Particulars will be immediately furnished to parties applying personally, or by post, to either of the above Offices, or to any of the Agents, who are appointed in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom.

JOHN A. DEAMONT, Managing Director.

THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Established 1805.

8 and 10, WATER-STREET, LIVERPOOL;

20 and 21, POULTRY, LONDON.

Capital, Two Millions Sterling. Reserved Funds, 500,000.

Liability of Proprietors unlimited.

CHRISTMAS POLICIES should be renewed within fifteen days after the 25th December; the Renewal Receipts are in the hands of the Agents.

FIRE INSURANCE at home and abroad on liberal terms, and no charge for policies.

LIFE INSURANCE in all its branches.

LIFE POLICIES, when taken out under Table No. 2, insure fixed BONUSES GUARANTEED TO THEM, not counting on Profits, without liability of Partnership to the Assured, and at moderate Premiums.

Prospectuses, and all information, may be had on application.

BENJAMIN HENDERSON, Resident Secretary.

SWINTON BOULT, Secretary to the Company.

UNION ASSURANCE OFFICE

(FIRE, LIFE, ANNUITIES.)

Cornhill and Baker-street, London; College-green, Dublin; and Grosvenor-street, Hamburg.

Instituted A.D. 1719.

LIFE.—Reduced Rates for Young and Middle Age, with the Guarantee of a Company in existence for nearly 140 years.

The last 80 years (1818) have additions to Policies varying from 25 to 70 per cent. on the previous Seven Years' Premiums.

Lower Rates without Profits.

Two-thirds only of the Premium may be paid until death.

Decreasing and Increasing Rates of Premium, and half-yearly or quarterly.

Loans granted. Medical Fees allowed.

RENEWAL RECEIPTS at the usual rates, and PROFITS returned on Policies taken out for seven years by prompt payment.

THOMAS LEWIS, Secretary.

INSURANCE AGAINST RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

DEBTS, BY THE RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Empowered by special Act of Parliament, 18 1/2 Vict. c. 13.

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TO INSURE

£1,000, at an annual premium of 2s.

Single journey tickets are likewise issued at most railway stations in the kingdom, at the following rates of premium:

3d. to insure £1,000, in a first-class carriage.

ditto 500, in a second-class carriage.

ditto 300, in a third-class carriage.

These sums to be paid to the legal representatives of the holder in the event of fatal travelling by railway, with proportionate compensation to himself in cases of personal injury.

ALEXANDER BEATTIE, Secretary.

3, Old Broad-street, Nov. 1851.

CALEDONIAN INSURANCE COMPANY

Established in 1805; incorporated by Royal Charter and Act of Parliament.

19, George-street, Edinburgh; 37, Moorgate-street, London.

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